

The Journal

Thursday, July 2, 1998

50 cents (Tax included)

Avenue parking issues at forefront

By James Carter

ALBANY — The proposed development of commercial property at a building on Solano Avenue that has been vacant for many years set loose a controversy about the city's plans — or lack thereof — to deal with a parking crisis on the Avenue. The building in question, located at 1501 Solano, is scheduled to be converted into a restaurant and another small business. At issue is a decision by the Albany Planning Commission to waive parking requirements and fees charged new businesses and the landlord there.

Dolly Walker, a merchant across the street from the property, was recently told that plans to construct a restaurant on that property includes "seatings for 80 people." According to Walker, such a move may result in an additional 40 automobiles parked in a neighborhood she said is already "stretched to the limit." Walker said the city is "not enforcing regulations" that require new businesses to provide off-street parking or pay fees when they can't. "The issue for me," Walker said, "is it seems that they (the City) have decided not to have any parking regulations (on Solano). This will have a very detrimental impact on all the businesses that currently exist there."

According to Planning Commission Director Gary Patton, the commission *did* waive parking requirements at the controversial location and it has the jurisdiction to do so. He said the current commission views Albany as an "urbanized area" and "the bottom line is that property owners cannot provide parking when their building occupies the whole lot. That's the reality." He added "the question is: do you stop economic development by hindering the ability of owners to turn their businesses over? That is not a healthy strategy."

Another merchant who asked not to be named complained that it is difficult to operate a business in Albany because "what happens in this city depends on who is in office. They approve things one year and somebody else gets into office and it's then disapproved."

Patton admitted that "historically the (parking) provisions may have been a little more 'letter of the law' in terms of you need to provide X or Y number of spaces before you occupy a building." However he suggested the solution is "not to prevent new development," but rather for "property owners to come to grips with the fact that collectively,

See PARKING on page C5

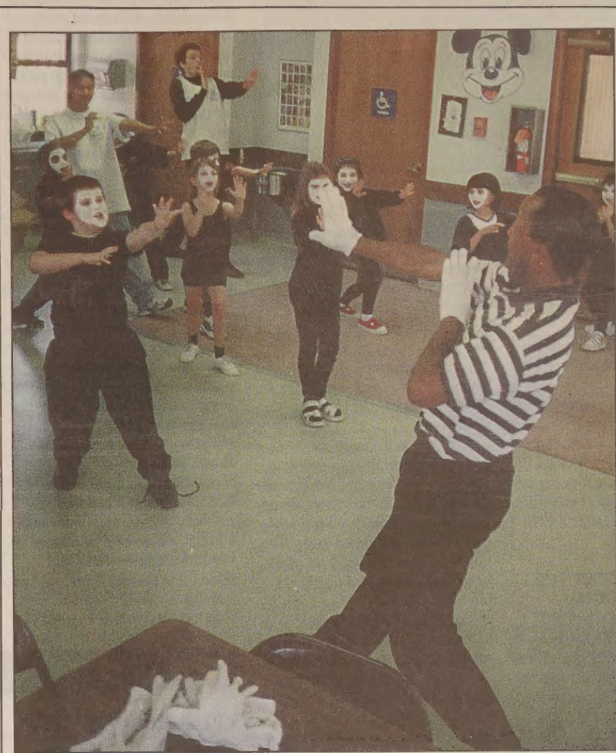
Neighbors organize 'block dinner' in support of Solano businesses

By James Carter

ALBANY — As a *trovador* sang and strummed a guitar playing classical Mexican ballads — his music as warm and reassuring as the light in Montero's Restaurant — 20 neighbors from Evelyn Street in Albany shared a meal together Sunday evening in an effort to "build community" and to support local businesses.

The neighbors, originally brought together as part of an earthquake preparedness group, feasted on chiles rellenos, carne asada, and tostadas, clinking their glasses together in celebration of their friendship.

Janna Katz, one of the captains of the Evelyn Street group, said her neighbors "get together frequently" and have held group garage sales,



Yours, mime, ours

Instructor Kirk Waller leads a group of 6- to 8-year-olds enrolled in El Cerrito's Mosaic Arts Academy through mime movements such as surprise, fear and joy at Madera Elementary last week. Students first had the traditional white face painted on (right). The academy offers instruction in a wide variety of traditional and non-traditional fields for kids ages 6 and up. Details: 215-4370.



One-time funds help balance EC budget

By J.R. Deaton

EL CERRITO — The city council unanimously approved the 1998/99 budget by a vote of four "ayes" and one "yeah — OK" at a special study session held last week. Because of better than expected revenues, reduced expenses and a transfer of money from the Redevelopment Agency to the city, the budget plan ended up with a surplus of about \$100,000 and didn't require reserve funds to balance as had previously been feared.

Councilmember Larry Damon, who cast the lone "yeah — OK" vote, warily supported the budget only after assurances by his council colleagues that the new budget will

be subject to regular reviews. As part of the budget approval, the council voted 5-0 to hold monthly — later quarterly — budget review sessions to set policy and make sure city finances stay on track.

"We are within reachable distance of where we want to be," Damon said before the vote and noted that "we've been given a new deal — a new set of cards to play with but we don't really know the game."

The "new deal" Damon referred to was the budget information presented to the council by City Manager Gary Pokorny and Community Development Manager Gerald Raycraft. At the previous week's regular city council meeting, the

council balked at approving the proposed budget that needed a \$383,000 infusion from city reserves to balance. But at last week's meeting, the city manager outlined a new scenario that turned the \$383,000 budget gap into a \$100,000-plus boost to city reserves.

Noting that "a budget is just a plan" that is "subject to periodic review and adjustment," Pokorny explained that better than expected revenue from property transfer taxes, the motor vehicle license tax and business license taxes, coupled with expenditure savings had changed the picture.

There were also savings from splitting audit costs with the Redevelopment Agency and "contract

adjustments" with the Kensington Fire District. After hearing from Raycraft about Redevelopment Agency finances, the council approved a plan to move \$605,000 from the agency to the city. The agency gained the money late last year by refinancing bonds and modifying the way it insures them. The agency owes about \$1 million to the city for staff time reimbursements, interest charges and other costs, and the council decision will erase a big chunk of its debt.

The council voted to use these funds, in part, to pay off a railroad right-of-way note the agency owes the city. Money from the payoff will go into the city's capital im-

See BUDGET on page C5

City ready, but Plaza partners may not be

■ The property's owners had asked for a delay to allow more time to finalize plans.

By J.R. Deaton

EL CERRITO — Anticipation has been high as Monday's deadline approaches for a presentation to the City Council by the El Cerrito Plaza's two owners of a new site plan for the ailing shopping center. Anticipation turned to uncertainty, however, when the two site owners in a conference call to city officials

asked for a time extension on their deadline and were told they should be prepared to attend Monday's meeting with something to show the council.

"We're going to discuss it whether they show up or not," Mayor Jane Bartke said Tuesday. "The agency is prepared to take some action. At this point we're pretty fed up. There's some doubt in our minds they can get their act together. It shouldn't take that long."

American Stores Properties Inc., and the El Cerrito Plaza Company have been working since last September to reach agreement after requesting the agency grant them an exclusive negotiating rights agreement to revitalize the Plaza. Last March the agency set a May deadline for the two to reach agreement and a site plan unveiled last May earned the two principals another extension. But the May site plan failed to impress the agency and most of the public at the standing-room-only meeting and many others seem to be hoping for

See PLAZA on page C5

'There's some doubt in our minds they can get their act together.'

—MAYOR JANE BARTKE

Community fun on the Fourth

Face it. The freeways will be clogged with people wanting to get out of town for the holiday weekend. So why not go to one of the community July 4 celebrations being held in your own back yard?

In both Albany and El Cerrito, community service groups are staging Fourth of July celebrations that have plenty to offer young and old alike.

In Albany the fun starts early, with the annual Lions Club pancake breakfast in Memorial Park. Pancakes, sausage and OJ (the good kind) along with coffee for mom and dad or milk for the small fry.

From there the festivities begin in earnest, with free ice cream for the youngsters (courtesy of the Albany Chamber of Commerce), the Lions' dunk tank, See CELEBRATE on page C5



Free T-shirts to early arrivals at El Cerrito's Fair are sure to generate smiles.

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Worth Checking Out

Read work ahead

Today and tomorrow, Caltrans will close various westbound Interstate 80 lanes between Richmond Parkway and Central Avenue in Richmond and various eastbound lanes between Gilman Street and Berkeley and Central Avenue in Berkeley. The lanes are scheduled to close each evening at 10 p.m. and reopen the following morning at 5 a.m. (westbound) and 6 a.m. (eastbound). At least one lane will remain open for through traffic at all times.

On July 6, Caltrans will close the left side of the eastbound I-80 off-ramp at Stockton Street (going toward Golden Gate Fields) for about four months. The ramp is expected to close at 5 a.m. on Monday and remain closed until mid-November as crews realign it and make room for construction activity at the I-80/I-580 interchange. The right fork will remain open and accessible.

Mysteries of redevelopment

Learn everything you ever wanted to know about the El Cerrito Redevelopment Agency at the July 7 meeting of the Services for the 21st Century Committee of the Whole. All El Cerrito residents and business owners are invited to attend the meeting at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, July 7, at the Open House Senior Center at 6500 Stockton St. (directly behind the El Cerrito Library) when Redevelopment Agency Program Manager Eliso Tierney will discuss the agency's budget, projects and staff. Tierney's presentation will run from 7:45 p.m. to 10 p.m. and everyone is welcome. Come early to learn about the mysteries of tax increment revenue, affordable housing requirements and the agency's power of eminent domain. Details: Thom Stark 320-9400

Friends at the Fair

Get the pick of the literature from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the July 4 Fair at the El Cerrito Community Center at 7007 Moser Lane. The Friends of the El Cerrito Library will have mysteries, romances, science fiction and myriad other adult and children's books for sale at bargain prices. They've chosen the cream of the crop for this sale and all books are first-come-first-served, so come early, or someone else may get the books you wanted. You'll find the Friends in front of the main entrance to the Community Center, directly across from the band stand. They'll be surrounded by booths offering great food and drink and lots of interesting, informative and just plain fun things to do, including the whole family.

International beast

"Cooperations and democracy — taming the new international beast" is the theme of a talk by Victor Minotti, Director of the International Forum on Globalization, presented by the El Cerrito Democratic Club on July 28, 7:30 p.m. at Northminster Presbyterian Church, 545 Ashbury Ave. in El Cerrito. The International Forum was formed to respond to the apparent restructuring of global politics and economics which is taking place at tremendous speed without full public disclosure, and the effects on communities and the natural world. Associates of the organization range from Oakland Mayor Elect Jerry Brown to Ralph Nader and Carl Pope of the Sierra Club. This event is free. Details: Ralf Weber, 524-8142.

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Grazing goat herds come under fire

Concern raised that
of voracious eaters to
control fire danger may
damage hill environment.

Toby Sterling
Special to The Journal

It's 6 a.m. as Ken McWilliams begins his workday trying to prevent fires in the East Bay hills. This week, it's a cleanup near the steam trains just off the Peak Blvd. and his assistants seem more awake than he. Some of them are so eager to get started they bleat in anticipation. For the past 14 years, McWilliams and his herd of goats have been working as a team on different jobs around the Bay Area. The goats grow so thickly that they eat the fire danger. The goats eat the plants for lunch.

Natural defense

People hate pesticides and herbicides," McWilliams said as he surveyed his goats munching the brush. "But they like goats because they're a natural way of dealing with excess plant growth." Although McWilliams was the first to implement goat-based fire management technology in the hills above Oakland and Berkeley, the goats have been catching on like wildfire. After the disastrous 1991 Oakland Hills Fire, the goats generated publicity and the market for them has grown. Today there are more than \$200,000 in goat contracts offered yearly by the major public landowners in the hills. But goats are immune from controversy — and fewer still when it comes to fire control. Goats are no exception.

"A lot of people are extremely nervous about the goats," says Bill McClung, who publishes a newsletter called "News from the Buffer Zone." His publication discusses the concept of fire safety zones where the goats are usually deployed. McClung's view of the goats is that they're lovable, but they leave a "scattered landscape behind." He believes the problem is simply that goats are not too effective in their work. "You need a knowledgeable leader, you can't let them graze the same area for too long," he said.

Voracious eaters

According to McClung, the goats are so vulnerable to erosion because they eat plants down to the nub, and sometimes pull them up by the roots. While goats are especially adept at working on steep slopes, the potential for erosion problems is greatest in such areas. McClung has tried several grazing experiments with llamas, and he believes they are less harmful than goats. However, he doesn't really advocate the use of any single-legged animal for fire control. "I view humans as the alternative," he said.

Chuck Mack, president of Teamwork Local 70 agrees. In 1995 Mack was licensed to learn officials at Mills College had hired the goats to do a job normally performed by union members. In a tongue-in-cheek letter to college officials, Mack threatened to "unionize the goats, saying 'while you may have gotten our goat, you haven't pulled the wool over our eyes.'"

Although the story got national attention, media coverage

downplayed the serious point underlying Mack's letter: Even if the goats do the work less expensively than people, there's a loss of jobs when the goats are used. "I think that should be taken into account," Mack says.

Still others think it's time to reassess the entire philosophy of using goats for fire control in the East Bay hills. Frank Bedall, a Sierra Club ecologist, is skeptical about using goats. "There's an assumption that it's OK, because goats are 'natural,'" he says, "I think the jury is out on that."

Nonnative species introduces

Bedall worries the goats have the potential to actually worsen fire danger because goats get seeds stuck in their fur and carry them from place to place, fertilizing as they go. "Habitats are very easily invaded. It's possible

'There's an assumption that it's OK, because goats are 'natural.' I think the jury is out on that.

—FRANK BEDALL, SIERRA CLUB ECOLOGIST

that you end up introducing exotic plants to a mostly native area," he said.

That's a problem because "exotic" flora, species introduced into the region during the last 100 years, are more of a fire danger than native plants. French Broom (a shrub) and Eucalyptus Trees are two well-known examples. Exotic shrubs cover areas where they grow much more densely than do native plants, and they tend to dry out more easily during the summer months.

Bedall says there are several areas where goats have made the fire danger worse. In 1993 goats were used to clear brush along Selby Trail in Tilden Park, from Lake Anza north, Bedall said. "Now it's solid French Broom. Gasoline, basically."

Robert Stebbins, a retired UC Berkeley biologist who has lived in the area and studied the ecology of the Oakland/Berkeley hills for more than 40 years, cited the same area in a 1995 review of fire prevention strategies in the East Bay Hills.

"The Selby Fuelbreak, in my judgment, is a greater fire hazard in some areas now than it was before efforts at vegetation management," Stebbins wrote. "There hasn't been adequate follow-up to maintain the fuelbreak, and as a result a more flammable vegetation has established itself. Goat grazing... is not ecologically benign."

Bad for the water

Since then, Stebbins' low opinion

of goats hasn't changed. He now believes there's an additional danger from goat droppings, that may introduce excess nitrogen into the water supply with unknown effects on local plants and animals. Echoing the Sierra Club's Bedall, Stebbins believes every aspect of current fire control plans needs to be reexamined. "Whatever you do, don't let goats mess with the native northern scrubs," Stebbins says, "They're actually called the 'wet' northern coastal scrubs, because they're so moist. They're probably the best long-term defense against fire."

Due to this increasing criticism of goats, some organizations such as the East Bay Regional Parks District, are planning to scale back their future use of the animals. Others, such as the East Bay Municipal Utilities District (EBMUD) plan to continue using the goats, but in a more restricted capacity.

Scott Hill, who is in charge of EBMUD's fire control program, is aware of the objections being raised about the goats. "We think they're a valuable tool," Hill says, adding that when the goats are used correctly, and in combination with other techniques, they can be a cheap and useful resource.

Hill thinks the key to avoiding a situation like the one along Selby Trail is to be vigilant about the upkeep of a site. As an example, he describes the procedure EBMUD has followed while using goats at a dangerous area on the west side of Fish Ranch Road near Grizzly Peak.

More study needed

The first step was a thorough study of the area, including careful cataloging of all native plants. "We don't have an official policy with regard to native and nonnative plants," he says, "The unofficial policy is we view natives to be desirable."

Two years ago the site was grazed by goats, simply to get the vegetation down to an acceptable level. Before the goats went to work, Hill and his goat contractor, McWilliams, worked to cover and protect all the native plants EBMUD's study had identified. The following year, Hill brought in horse loggers to remove some Eucalyptus trees from the area. Bulldozers were also used to knock over some of the bigger nonnative bushes the goats would strip of leaves but not kill.

This year the goats were briefly brought in again to eat away new growth. Hill believes this procedure results in a net increase of native plants in the controlled areas.

"After goats, after bulldozers, you'll find little Oak seedlings five inches tall," Hill said. "I'm not saying that we save every native plant in the area — we don't. But the damage is minimal." "I don't subscribe to the philosophy of getting rid of all non-native plants," said Hill, "I don't think that makes sense. You do it where possible. But there are other things to



file photo

Goats have become a controversial measure to prevent fires in the East Bay hills.

be considered." Of course when decisions are made, fire prevention takes precedence and prevention of soil erosion comes second.

Hill thinks the threat of water contamination from the nitrogen in goat droppings is too remote to warrant action, at least for now. Ultimately, EBMUD's goal is to have a wilderness area able to withstand small fires without turning into a conflagration.

"We want to reintroduce fire," Hill said. "It's better for wildlife. A lot of native species need fire — without it they die." Next year the Fish Ranch Road site will be ready for a controlled burn that will be repeated every five years or so with little maintenance in between.

For fire control programs to be effective in the long run, Hill explains, they must be inexpensive enough to be maintained. Goats clear an acre of brush for between \$500 and \$700, while it would cost about \$2,000 to hire humans to do a comparable job.

Still, newsletter publisher McClung is not convinced that goats are the best solution. "They do a job, with grasses and it is cheap. But there's always the chance they'll end up doing more harm than good," he said.

McClung wants to assemble a team of volunteers who are able to discriminate between native and nonnative plants. These volunteers would go out and do the work goats are doing now. A program similar to

McClung's proposal has proved successful in San Francisco's Presidio. "If we do it like that, it doesn't

have to be more expensive, he says. "Besides, the issue is not doing it cheaper, it's doing it better."

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Brusatori calls for better communication to, from residents

By J.R. Deaton

EL CERRITO—Saying that the city and its citizens "need to find a better way to communicate," El Cerrito Mayor Pro Tem Gina Brusatori talked about the city council, the city staff, redevelopment and the "state of the city" at last week's El Cerrito Democratic Club meeting.

Brusatori said that during her two years on the city council there has, at times, been a "lack of effective and specific notice" of council business. She noted that this poor communication of council agenda items of "neighborhood or community-wide concern" has caused some residents to "cry 'conspiracy'."

Brusatori said people should have more than the legally mandated 72 hours minimum notice to write letters and talk to others about matters coming before the council.

Noting that "about 99 percent" of city hall records are open to the public Brusatori said "not being forthcoming is a bad idea." Although saying that the city has "very fine staff and they're very good," she nevertheless noted "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure," and suggested the city manager tell his staff that "a little time up front disclosing the information" would save "hours of work and hassle in trying to find the information and responding to council and citizen requests later."

But some in the audience of about

22 El Cerrito and Kensington Democrats seemed to think the requests for information were excessive. Noting that "we're not over-staffed," El Cerrito resident Lori Dair said there are some people in the community who will never be satisfied and suggested it's a waste of time, effort and staff morale to try to satisfy them. She said that when city staff have to prepare for "special meetings" week after week they have less time for other things such as preparing the city budget.

Dwight Merrill, a 23-year El Cerrito resident, wondered if residents are getting "meeting-out" by the large number of civic meetings being called. He said that people in the community can't attend meeting after meeting in the evenings.

Agreeing that this has been a "blockbuster year for meetings," Brusatori said perhaps next year won't be as bad and that while people are tired of hearing the "negative," she added: "Even out of negative comments there have been positive things that happen."

She talked about the work of the Services for the 21st Century's Committee of the Whole. She noted that this committee of citizen volunteers looking into El Cerrito's finances has found no "smoking gun," no wrong-doing, no bad management practices other than that there could be "more clarity" and "more openness" concerning city finances. Brusatori said city staff are "unnecessarily defensive" given the fact that "the city is generally well run and well managed."

After noting that "summary documents such as the annual budget are ineffective as communication tools," Brusatori said the current council is a "hands-on" detail-oriented group and it is working to change the type of information it gets from city staff. This council,

she said, wants more detail and "numbers" and less summation than previous city councils. "To the extent that people have criticism, they are reflective of past council policies," Brusatori said, adding that staff often reflects "council direction or the lack thereof."

In remarks about redevelopment, Brusatori said it is a myth that redevelopment hurts existing small businesses. She said that sometimes "synergies are created" and mentioned Pastime Hardware as an example of a vibrant local business doing well despite competition from larger stores.

On the question of Plaza revitalization, Brusatori said she may well ask for a binding advisory public vote. Saying she is ready to make "tough decisions" the long-stalled project, she said that fact there was talk of a public vote on the Plaza has helped much the council has changed in past years. The question is, "how much, if any, public money should be spent on the Plaza by the council and community council in the past several years. Brusatori she has been "underwater" on development plans put forth by Plaza principals thus far.

Reformed smoker-turned-cyclist sets out on 'Ride Across America'

■ Albany man will report in as coast-to-coast bike ride progresses.

By James Carter

DuBose Scarborough smoked a pack of unfiltered Camel cigarettes every day for 30 years. On June first of last year, he quit. Now the Albany resident, is somewhere in the Rocky Mountains peddling a bicycle along with over 700 others who are making the trek from Seattle to Washington, D.C. as participants in The Big Ride Across America.

The Big Ride, sponsored by GTE and billed as the largest cross-country cycling event in history, will raise funds for the American Lung Association (ALA). Scarborough decided to participate in the trip when he saw a table advertising the event at last year's Solano Stroll. "I thought, 'Gee, that sounds like a neat thing to do,' and here I am," Scarborough told *The Journal* over a cell phone provided by trip sponsors.

By the time Scarborough completes the trip, he and his companions will have journeyed 3,254 miles, climbed mountain passes as high as 7,000 feet, and traveled through 12 states and the District of

Columbia.

Cyclists, all of whom had to raise \$6,000 each for the AMA in order to participate in the cross country event, began their journey in Seattle June 15. "Riding out of Seattle was a real emotional experience because there were people lined up for several blocks cheering us on," Scarborough said. "I've never encountered anything like that before."

The day Scarborough's trek began, the weather in Seattle was "pleasant — just a little overcast." But that would soon change. "We went over Snoqualmie Pass and camped on the other side," Scarborough said. "It got pretty cold — under 40 degrees. It felt like winter and it was raining." The cyclist recalled that there was even a "dusting of snow" in the mountains above their camp that first night.

Scarborough said that though he was enjoying the trip, "every day presents a challenge." The night that he called *The Journal* he was in Powell, Idaho, camped "quite liter-

See RIDE on page A5

Police Reports

Police warn of burglary ploy

EL CERRITO — Police are advising residents to beware of a burglary ruse used by three juveniles who approach people and ask to recover a ball from the back yard. While residents are distracted, one of the group takes a purse from the residence. Three incidents have been reported: in the 1400 block of Brewster, the 1700 block of Julian Ct. and the 1600 block of Julian Dr. Incidents have happened between noon and 2:30 p.m. The suspects are described as a black female, age 6, about 3-foot-6, 60 lbs., wearing a red shirt, a black female about age 11, standing

5-foot-7, clothing unknown; and a black male about age 11, 4-foot-6, 85 lbs. with unknown clothing.

June 23

- A red '91 Suzuki Sidekick 4x4 was stolen from the Freeway Motel.
- A 34-year-old man was arrested for striking his girl friend.
- A 24-year-old man was arrested after being discovered in possession of a large quantity of explosives.

June 24

- Someone smashed the window of a vehicle in the 2400 block of Edwards Avenue and ransacked the

See BLOTTER on page C5

Police apprehend prowler

By K. Osborn

ALBANY — At about 9:30 p.m. on June 22 a resident on the 1200 block of Brighton Avenue reported observing a man looking into her window. Officers located the man 28-year-old Oakland man. He was arrested, cited and released with a Notice to Appear.

On the evening of June 22 a resident on the 600 block of Curtis Street reported that sometime between June 19 and June 22 thieves stole his .38 caliber Colt gun with blue steel and walnut grips from his unlocked vehicle.


On June 23 a resident on the 1000 block of Cornell Avenue re-

ported her tan Dodge truck during the night or previous afternoon.

On the afternoon of June 23 officers responded to reports of a dispute between two brothers. Things settled down and the officers departed. A couple of hours later officers were again called to the same residence as the brothers were again fighting. Officers arrested one of the brothers, a 21-year-old San Francisco man, for trespassing. He was transported to the Berkeley jail.

On the night of June 23 residents on the 1000 block of Ordway Street reported that they came home and found that their home had been bro-

See POLICE on page C5



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Cities study possibility of Albany/Berkeley ferry service

James Carter

Waterfront Committees from the cities of Albany and Berkeley have expressed interest in a proposal to construct a ferry boat landing at the intersection of Gilman Street near Golden Gate Fields. The ferry boat terminal, if built, could transport commuters across the bay to San Francisco in twenty minutes and potentially provide ferry access to the city. Pier 39, Sausalito, the Golden Gate Bridge, and the San Francisco Airfield, according to ferry line supporters.

Though no specific designs have been proposed to date, Anthony Bruzoni, a principle from Pacific Transit Management, told *The Journal* that studies done in 1992 suggest that more than 800 passengers could use the ferry every weekday, perhaps as many as 300 more during horse racing season.

Though no studies were done to estimate weekend use, Albany Mayor Bruce Mast said "from what I understand, there would be an opportunity to run recreational ferries on the weekends to Angel Island, Treasure Island — if there is development there — or several different locations."

Mast said that he thinks it is "a great idea" to develop a ferry line, adding that "the big problem is that the Bay Bridge is basically at capacity right now," and that it is impossible to "squeeze more people" on BART trains during rush hour. "So," he added, "we've got to look at some alternatives for getting people across the Bay."

A new concept

There is a long history of ferry lines in the Berkeley/Albany area. The Berkeley pier was at one time a long driveway to a car-carrying ferry that shuttled people and

Ride

continued from page A4

out in the middle of nowhere," spending the night on timber company land where sand and earth had been packed down in order to create a camp. Scarborough had already endured temperatures that soared to the high 80s and winter-like conditions, including thunderstorms; he had also crossed mountain passes and had half a dozen flat tires. And it was only Day Nine of a 14-day trip.

Individuals participating in the cross-country trip must continue to ride their bikes regardless of rain or other weather conditions. Asked what it was like enduring drastic changes in the weather, Scarborough said all the cyclists were "prepared" with all the necessary equipment and that the only part of the body that could not be protected from the elements was the face. "You almost bathe in sunscreen," he said. "You're out on the road for 10 hours a day. So I'm getting a good tan."

Cyclists average 81 miles a day, though their longest single trek will require that they pedal 113 miles. Despite the sometimes grueling conditions, Scarborough said he was great and is particularly moved by the way companions help each other out. He described an example of how people "watch out for each other."

"Yesterday it was supposed to be very hot. So I left all my rain gear in my pack that is transported by pack. We got caught in thunderstorms. I had to pull over and take cover for awhile because it was raining really wet and cold." When he got back on the road, another cyclist who, seeing how miserable he was, "asked if there was anything he could do." After explaining his predicament, the other cyclist — without hesitation — gave Scarborough his jacket "and just took off."

Participants are backed up by a group of 200 people along the entire length of the trip. Sponsors, who are working with GTE include Folgers Coffee and Ultima Replenisher Sports Drink, serve cyclists breakfast and dinner though bikers are responsible for their own lunches. Shower trucks and sinks are available at every campsite and portable toilets are set up at designated rest stops and camp grounds. GTE also provides all riders with a free telephone card, access to cellular phones and e-mail.

As Scarborough prepared to bed down for the night, he promised to

their automobiles to San Francisco. And in the aftermath of the Loma Prieta earthquake in 1989, many commuters caught a ferry at the Berkeley Marina, though access for those without automobiles was extremely limited due to the design of the University Avenue overpass.

Advocates of a ferry system suggest that building a terminal at the end of Gilman Street would avoid the pitfalls experienced by the Marina ferry and provide service to commuters in Albany and Berkeley that currently have limited options if they want to make the commute to work. Jerri Holan, a member of the Albany Waterfront Committee, said there is a "real need" for an alternative form of mass transit in Albany, especially since "we are not served by BART" and AC Transit service to San Francisco "is fairly infrequent." She added that "the alternative of having a ferry — an environmentally friendly type of transit service — is quite exciting."

Other cities in the Bay Area are currently considering building their own ferry lines, hoping to use federal and state funds to build new terminals. Vallejo, for instance, which already operates 11 round trip lines to San Francisco, hopes to extend services to Fisherman's Wharf.

Albany, Berkeley meet

The Metropolitan Transportation Commission proposed to a joint gathering of Berkeley and Albany Waterfront commissions last month the idea of building a terminal at the end of Gilman Street, suggesting that new ferry boats, able to travel at speeds of 25 knots and faster, make such commuters competitive with other forms of public transportation. Proponents argue that such a line could also help lessen the grow-

ing gridlock that has increasingly paralyzed the Bay Area — so much so that, according to ferry line supporters, the annual rate of increase in traffic congestion here is now greater than the rate of growth in Los Angeles.

Holan said she thinks the opportunity "to get all of those people out

'We've got to look at some alternatives for getting people across the Bay.'

ALBANY MAYOR BRUCE MAST

of their cars is just wonderful. I mean I can't stand to get on Highway 80. I just avoid it." She suggested that the time needed to get to San Francisco on a ferry would be less than taking BART "because you won't have all the stops that BART makes." Holan also said that on AC Transit, "you can't get over to the city in the middle of the day," while the proposed ferry line "would operate all day."

Asked who would pay for a new ferry boat terminal, Bruzoni said "there is bridge toll money, there's some state money, and there's some federal money as well." He suggested that the Metropolitan Transportation Commission would "help investigate sources of revenue" to pay for a terminal "if this is important" to the people of Albany and Berkeley. "No project can go forward unless people want it to happen," Bruzoni said. "If it is important to the body politic, then that's great. If not, we'll go some place else."

Asked how she thought a ferry terminal could be built, Holan said she thinks there "would probably have to be some kind of a transportation tax" similar to that proposed by the recently defeated Measure B.

Pointing to the fact that several environmental groups, including the Sierra Club, opposed Measure B

because they didn't believe it considered other transportation alternatives, Holan said there would have to be "some sort of language in a transportation measure that would allow for ferries." Adding that she suspected there are federal funds available for such things, Holan also suggested that a ferry line "would have to be very closely linked with AC Transit" in order to provide a complete transit system.

Presentation to council

Bruzoni, on behalf of Pacific Transit Management, is scheduled to make a presentation to the Albany City Council regarding a Gilman Street ferry terminal July 6. During the presentation, he will display an aerial photograph of Albany loaned to him by the city. According to Bruzoni, by studying the aerial map people can see that "the Gilman site, even though it's actually in Berkeley, serves Albany really well. If you look at the map you can see that everything (in Albany) funnels in right through Gilman Street."

Holan said she would like to see the Albany City Council form a

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Albany Transportation Plan meeting

The next in a series of meetings on Albany's Transportation Plan is Monday July 6, when the working group for Southeast Albany (south of Solano and east of San Pablo) meets at

7 p.m. at the Albany Community Center, 1247 Marin Ave.

The first session of the citywide group is July 8 at 7 p.m. at City Hall, 1000 San Pablo Ave.

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task force to promote a ferry service. "I think the problem is that a few people in Albany think, well, it's going to be at Gilman Street (in Berkeley) and that's not our problem."

Holan said that when I-80 was planned "Albany (residents) stuck their heads in the mud," and, as a consequence, the highway was originally constructed without any Albany exits. According to Holan, residents later said "Hey, why don't we have any exits?" and that Caltrans later added exits "which is

Pacific Transit Management, is scheduled to make a presentation to the Albany City Council regarding a Gilman Street ferry terminal July 6.

why we have such a mess of exits and entrances onto the freeway. I don't think we should make the same mistake with the ferry planning," she said.

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A day for heroes

Gray Lady reborn: Oakland's Ted Crosby won't admit he's a hero. "I was just in the right place at the right time," he insists.

But to the more than 500 sailors on an American destroyer (code named "Whisky Base") during the battle of Okinawa, he was Sergeant York, Audie Murphy and Santa Claus, all rolled into one.

The date was April 16, 1945. And Crosby — then a skinny 23-year-old Navy fighter pilot — was the only thing standing between Whisky Base and a squadron of 20 Japanese kamikazes that was homing in for the kill.

It looked like the ship was doomed. Of the 4,000 kamikaze attacks during the war, 3,000 were made at Okinawa. During this one battle, the suicide planes sank 32 American ships, damaged 388 others, killed 5,000 American sailors and maimed or crippled 5,000 more.

What's worse, Crosby's F6 Hellcat was slower and less maneuverable than the Japanese Zeroes. "Please don't leave us," the destroyer's radio operator kept frantically begging.

We'll let the official Navy report tell what happened next: "Lieutenant Crosby shot down four enemy planes although, having become separated from his division, he fought a single-handed battle for most of the engagement. The first fighter he attacked burst into flames and crashed. A second plane engaged him in a head-on run, but his bullets scored hits on the enemy plane which, burning about the engine, went down. Regaining altitude, he opened fire on a third fighter which also fell into the sea ablaze. The fourth plane he attacked broke apart in midair, concluding the engagement."

To this day, Crosby pooh-poohs all this, insisting that his buddy Millard "Fuzz" Wooley actually did a lot of the things Crosby got credit for. "A lot of guys did what I did, but they never got the recognition," he says. "Don't you dare think they didn't serve, too."

But the Navy awarded him the Navy Cross for what it called his "extraordinary heroism." And that was just one battle. In other engagements, Crosby earned three Distinguished Flying Crosses, seven Air Medals, two Presidential Unit Citations, 10 battle stars, and the Pacific Campaign Ribbon.

But he's no hero, right?

Ted Crosby was just one of the American boys who flew off the aircraft carrier USS Hornet. And they compiled a record unmatched in Naval history, shooting down more enemy planes and sinking more enemy warships than any other carrier in World War II. And despite being the target of more than 100 kamikaze attacks at Okinawa alone, the Hornet was never hit.

The Hornet was built entirely by women — the famous Rosie the riveters — in less than one year (compared to the seven to eight years it would take to build a carrier today). After her commissioning, she served for 19 straight months without ever seeing home port until she was put out of action by a typhoon that caved in her bow shortly before the end of the war.

(And even then, she got in one last shot: Her skipper, the legendary Admiral J.J. "Jocko" Clark, simply sailed her backwards into the wind and had the planes take off from the stern, instead. Recalls one sailor: "The guys on the other ships must have thought the Old Man had finally lost his marbles.")

After the war the Hornet went on to serve in both Korea and Vietnam, but her most famous act was her last one: She was the ship that fished the Apollo 11 astronauts — Neil Armstrong, Buzz Aldrin and Michael Collins — out of the sea after their history-making trip to the moon.

But the next year she was decommissioned, and it looked for all the world like the Old Gray Lady was doomed to be broken into scrap. I wrote about her sad dilemma a few years ago, and I was sure I was writing her obituary.

But the Hornet didn't die. Overcoming seemingly insurmountable hurdles, a devoted group of volunteers, led by Gerald Lutz, former Executive Officer of the Oakland Naval Supply Center, rescued the Hornet from the scrap yard at Hunter's Point.

Instead, the beautiful old ship is now docked at the Alameda Naval Air Station, where Lutz and his volunteers are busy turning the Hornet into a floating museum.

Their job has been made easier by the fact that the ship is in fantastic shape, considering that she's been in mothballs for more than 15 years.

"Structurally, she's in great condition," says Lutz. "It shows how much she was loved by her crew. Instead of taking the easy way and painting her metal parts, they polished them, instead. Even after her decommissioning, former crew members sneaked into the drydock yard and repainted her hull up to 15 feet above the waterline, to protect her from rust."

Another pleasant surprise greeted them when they flipped on the electrical switches. The radar, the blue lights in the Combat Information Center, the refrigeration system, the voice-activated sound phones — everything worked as well as it did the day the ship was decommissioned in June, 1970.



■ Martin Snapp

Moreover, ever since word of the Hornet's resurrection got out, many of the ship's original artifacts have started returning, some as mysteriously as they disappeared in the first place.

"We found the original ship's commissioning plaque and wheel at the Naval Air Station in Lemoore," says Lutz. "Don't ask me how they got there. We found the ship's bell in New Jersey. And the ship's scorecard (with 1,000-plus tiny Japanese flags, representing the number of enemy planes shot down) was in Florida."

They've also acquired two World War II planes: an F6 Hellcat (the same kind Ted Crosby used to fly) and a TBM Avenger. These planes will be joined by other vintage aircraft — but only planes that flew off the Hornet.

Among their other acquisitions: a tattered American flag that flew from the Hornet's mast during the battle of the Philippines; the ship's dinner menu (entree: ham and peas) from Christmas Day, 1944; original copies of the ship's newspaper (including the edition announcing the death of President Roosevelt); and pieces of gold mylar from the Apollo 11 capsule.

And a guy named Thom Vargas, who wasn't even born when World War II was going on, donated a complete set of ship recognition models (scale 1: 250) that were given to him by what he describes as "a friendly, gray-haired old man who used to take me fishing when I was a boy growing up in Berkeley in the 1950s."

That friendly, gray-haired old man was Admiral of the Fleet Chester Nimitz.

Which brings me to the real reason Lutz and his volunteers are doing all this. They aren't busting their backs just because they love groovy-looking old ships, or even because they want to honor the men and women who saved the world from another Dark Age.

They're doing this for the next generation. Not to turn kids into warrior wannabes, but to turn them into lovers of liberty and justice. They want to remind today's youngsters that there have been times when America truly was, as Lincoln put it, "the last, best hope of earth."

World War II was such a time. So was the Civil Rights movement of the '50s and early '60s. (And there's an obvious connection: The Civil Rights movement was inevitable because an entire generation of Americans couldn't stomach the idea of racial discrimination at home after they'd fought so hard and suffered so much to eradicate it abroad.)

I don't know when the next crisis is coming, or even if it'll be a military one. It might be economic or environmental. But it is coming, sooner or later. And today's 10-year-olds will be the heroes who conquer it — if we give them the tools.

That means better schools and fewer guns. But it also means giving them an example of how Americans can work together for the greater good when push comes to shove.

So Lutz & Co. are deliberately restoring the Hornet to be kid-friendly. Youngsters will be able to climb all over the old aircraft and learn the flag signals and take part in organized treasure hunts like "Find a wrench that's bigger than you" and "Find a 4,000-lb. door you can open all by yourself." Plus virtual reality simulators, historic videos, overnight field trips, guided tours led by Hornet veterans, and much, much more.

The Hornet will be open to visitors starting in about six weeks, with the official grand opening scheduled for Sept. 19. Every VIP from Clinton on down has been invited, and it's a good bet many of them will attend (especially so close to the elections).

But the real VIPs will be Hornet veterans like Ted Crosby — and the little kids who will someday grow up to be like him.

When Lutz and his volunteers took possession of the Hornet, the first thing they discovered was an old calendar on the wall from June 1970, the date the ship was decommissioned. On it, someone had scrawled a picture of a crying face, along with the words, "Goodbye, Old Gray Lady."

But today, there are nothing but smiles. Welcome home, Gray Lady. It's good to have you back.

Happy Fourth of July.

Martin Snapp's column appears every Thursday. Phone Martin at 273-9039; write him c/o Hills Newspapers, 5707 Redwood Rd., Oakland CA 94619; or e-mail him at catman@california.com

A Time to Reap and a Time to Sow ...

To everything there is a season, and certainly June 1998 will go down in the history of our school district as a turning point. Events during this month of June highlighted for me how far we have come as a community in rebuilding and revising our school district.

At the same time, our successes expose with greater clarity the scope of the major challenges we face. This is not a time to get complacent about how good things are getting — now we need to take the seeds of hope we have been given and sow them for a better future.

Measure E scores big district-wide

On June 2, West County voters injected a major infusion of hope and goodwill into our school district passing the Measure E school bond three votes to one (75.7 of voters voted yes).

Detailed precinct results indicate that the bond passed by more than the required two-thirds margin in all jurisdictions of the district.

From Hercules to El Cerrito the message is clear: residents and voters want to commit to our children and their schools and are willing to invest in that effort.

Superintendent to retire

While we were still catching our breath from the June 2 election, Superintendent Herb Cole announced to the Board of Education on June 3 his intention to retire on Jan. 31, 1999. Cole has been with the district through a remarkable period — starting his tenure in the wake of the district's bankruptcy.

The passage of the bond measure is an exclamation point on how far the district has come over the last six years.

Now, the Board of Education is faced with the crucial task of seeking a replacement. This is without a doubt the most important decision a board of any kind can make, the selection and hiring of the top executive, in the case of a school district, the superintendent.

Groundbreaking for Kennedy Swim Center

On June 19, we passed another key milestone as the City of Richmond and the WCCUSD celebrated the groundbreaking for the Kennedy Swim Center.

With the bulldozers and construction workers busy in the background, community activists, city, and school officials celebrated the launch of construction activities which will renovate the currently inoperative swim area at J.F. Kennedy High School creating a swim center for the school and community. The effort is a partnership between the City of Richmond and the WCCUSD.

The same day as we celebrated the initiation of construction on the swim center at Kennedy, the Contra Costa Interfaith Sponsoring Committee held a press conference at Peres Elementary School in Richmond to draw attention to the California state legislature's inaction on the proposed state school bond measure.

As noted during the Measure E campaign, passage of a state school bond could help leverage

and extend Measure E funds. We'll keep you posted here on the progress (or lack thereof) of the state school bond measure and how you can help pressure the state legislature to get this on the ballot.

Reform and involvement efforts stall

While there is a lot to celebrate, it is clear that much remains to be done. As we move into the summer and next school year we must as a district focus our attention on educational quality and facilities renovation.

We must break out of the box, try new initiatives, and, especially, develop new mechanisms to involve the public in our schools.

Sadly, we did not do well in these areas in the month of June. The Citizen's Advisory Commission for District School Facilities approved by the Board of Education on April 22 has not yet been formed.

With the passage of Measure E this body is more important than ever. I hope in next week's column to propose a detailed implementation plan for the commission — the key is to keep citizens involved in the crucial challenges and decisions facing our school district's facilities.

On June 17, the Board of Education deadlocked on a proposal to hire Sylvan Learning Systems to provide intensive tutorial assistance to low-performing students in three of the district's middle schools.

While the proposal was not perfect, I voted for it because of Sylvan's track record, the opportunity to use Title I and VIP funds in new ways, and to continue to encourage our staff to look at new methods of addressing student needs.

The failure of the proposal highlights the need to fully involve teachers and parents in reform efforts. As a district, we



West County School Works
By Glen Price

simply must learn that if we communicate, we can empower, the better off we be.

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El Cerrito Chamber of Commerce By Sewall Glinternick

Chamber/council considering economic development program

The Chamber and the City Council will hold a special joint session this month to consider the possibility of creating an economic development program for El Cerrito. It was announced late last week.

The session is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. on Monday, July 20, in the former Great Western Bank building at 220 El Cerrito Plaza (next to the Great American Dry Cleaners).

Expected to be on hand to consider establishment of such a program here will be Council members and city staffers, members of the El Cerrito Chamber, as well as a representative from the Contra Costa Economic Partnership and an economic development expert from Alameda County.

Saying this meeting "could very well lead to a brighter future for this city," Chamber President Bill Kerker called the session "a landmark event as far as Chamber/Council cooperation is concerned."

Kerker urged all interested members of the business community to attend and made a special point of asking all Chamber directors to participate in the study session.

"The need for an economic development program and an Economic Development Advisory Committee here has been stressed for months by Redevelopment Agency Chairman Mark Friedman and Redevelopment Agency Vice Chairman Larry Damon.

The proposal to hold a joint session on economic development came out of the current series of Chamber/Council meetings now underway, after Mayor Jane Bartke called on both groups to work together on projects that would benefit the city of El Cerrito."

In a letter to the mayor sent before the current round of talks began, Chamber directors suggested that an Economic Development Advisory Committee — staffed by community members who understood the finer points of economic development instead of civic-minded volunteers — be formed.

They also called for both groups to discuss the possibility that such a committee be granted the power to:

- Augment city staff as advisors to the Council on all economic development matters.
- Review all environmental impact reports and developer's plans and recommend action to the Council for their consideration.
- Allow them to fully review and make recommendations on matters acted on by other city boards when their decisions have an impact on the business community.

Mixer to benefit readers

Participants in the El Cerrito Chamber mixer on Thursday, July 16, will be given the chance to win money for Mayor Jane Bartke's reading program.

Hosting the benefit mixer will be the House Of Carpets, 11835 San Pablo Ave. The event, which runs from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m., is open to all Chamber members and their guests.

Highlighting the event will be a shuffleboard tournament.

Parts of the board will be marked with dollar amounts.

Contestants who land on these spots will win the various amounts, with the money going to benefit the mayor's reading program.

Reservations for the mixer are not required, but would be helpful in planning the event. Call the Chamber at 233-7040.

Date set for October Fiesta

The El Cerrito Chamber Of Commerce's Third Annual October Fiesta — featuring free live entertainment, fabulous foods and an outstanding selection of craft items — will be held on Saturday, Oct. 24, it was announced this week.

For the third straight year the Fiesta will take place in the mall area of El Cerrito Plaza, and will be held in conjunction with the Chamber's annual City-Wide Fall Round-Up Sale Days.

Serving as head of the Fiesta planning group again this year is Plaza manager Janet Jolley, who announced that people and firms willing to serve as co-sponsors and financial backers for this event are now being sought.

Members of the business community interested in supporting this year's fiesta should contact the Chamber at 233-7040.

Organized by the El Cerrito Chamber of Commerce in 1996 to promote business and to establish an event which would enhance the image of the city through the years, the '98 Fiesta is being planned by the following committees:

Michael Klingner and Barbara Cronin, children's games; June Boblitt and Rena Bruton, entertainment; Will Chun, printing and child protection program; Bob Winslow, Larry Sanchez and Bill

Kerker, set up and take down; Sewall Glinternick, publicity; and Janet Jolley, mailings and coordination.

Plans are also well underway for Round-Up Sale Days, which will run Oct. 22 through Oct. 25. This event is sponsored by the Chamber twice each year to promote the growth of local business. News of the special values being offered Round-Up weekend will be available to local shoppers in a special tabloid supplement which will be delivered to the regular circulation of Family Fair, The Journal and The Berkeley Voice.

Those wishing to advertise in the sale tabloid can contact Bill Slenter at Family Fair, 237-7777.

New member joins chamber

The Pacific Bell Mobile Services office at 2200 Powell St. Street in Emeryville has become the newest member of the El Cerrito Chamber.

The firm, a Pacific Telesis company, will be represented here by account executive Marjorie Lopez Hendricks. She can be reached at 333-7716.

We are happy to welcome Bob Winslow as a full-fledged member of the Chamber of Commerce. Long an associate member of this organization, Winslow recently reopened the Winslow Carpet Cleaning firm and upgraded his status to full

membership. His company, located at 1518 Lexington Ave., can be reached at 234-9305.

Pre-Paid Legal Services

Joan Brannigan of Pre-Paid Legal Services Inc., one of the El Cerrito Chamber's newer members, has succeeded in turning a personal need into a successful home-based business.

Brannigan is a school teacher in Berkeley. Like many other teachers, on a few occasions she has been threatened with lawsuits by disgruntled students and

parents. On one such occasion, a friend recommended a pre-paid plan that supplied affordable legal services.

She tried it and liked it. In fact she liked it so much she went to work as a legal services broker for the firm that helped

her.

In outlining the advantages, Brannigan said that "practically everyone will need legal help sooner or later, and a pre-paid plan simply makes getting that help easier and more affordable."

"Just look at the facts," she said. "Each year 80 million lawsuits are filed in the U.S. — an average of 152 lawsuits per minute. This means one out of

three Americans will need the advice of a lawyer in the next 12 months."

Brannigan herself has used her pre-paid legal plan six times since last August — once to save thousands of dollars on the purchase of a home and another time to get out from under a bait-and-switch auto repair scam.

She maintains that "Pre-paid legal assistance is necessary for everyone today. Our attorneys will be there when you need help to buy a home, review a contract, prepare your will and more. They will be there to ensure that you and your family get a fair shake in all your day-to-day dealings. All it takes to get the legal help you need is a simple toll-free telephone call."

Cost of the basic family plan which can also accommodate very small businesses is only \$16 per month. The much more comprehensive plan for most businesses is just \$69 per month.

Brannigan, a 22-year resident of El Cerrito, operates out of her home at 1244 Richmond St. and can be reached at 236-3821.



A royal Chamber Of Commerce welcome is extended to new member Joan Brannigan of Pre-Paid Legal Services, Inc. (center) by El Cerrito Mayor Jane Bartke (left) and Chamber President Bill Kerker (right)

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People

ALBANY — On June 24, the US Department of Agriculture's Western Regional Research Center recognized 13 outstanding young scientists who were winners at the San Francisco Bay Area Science Fair in March.

The students are Erika Ebbel, Jon Lehmann, Kathleen Grosserode, Alex Bowerman, Christine Franks, Patrick Lecoour, Omar Sultan, Benson Gilbert, Molly Klett, Swati Ahluwalia,

Trevor Zelmar, Erin Luckiesh, and Bradley Strauss.

Every year the laboratory invites Science Fair winners for a full day visit. In the morning, they exhibited their award winning projects for viewing by the scientists and staff of the Center at 800 Buchanan Street in Albany.

They explained their work, how they developed it and answered numerous questions. In the afternoon, they were given the grand

tour of the Center.

Dr. Bruce Campbell, Acting Center Director, welcomed them, congratulated them and presented plaques to them commemorating their accomplishments.

The Center, a facility of USDA's Agricultural Research Service, was established in 1939 to carry out a wide variety of research in support of US farmers and agriculture.

The Center has almost 200 scientists and support staff working on 35 research projects.

This is the eighth year the WRRC recognized the achievements of Bay Area students in various scientific areas.

The Bay Area Science Fair is an annual event designed to encourage students interested in careers in science.

Brenda Shank, M.D., Ph.D., formerly Chairman and Professor

of Radiation Oncology at Mount Sinai Medical Center in New York, joins Doctors Medical Center's J.C. Robinson MD Regional Cancer Center in San Pablo on July 1 as Director of Radiation Oncology.

Noted for her work in radiation oncology, Dr. Shank was chosen as one of the "Best Doctors in New York" in New York

During her nine years at Mount Sinai Medical Center, she succeeded in starting a residency program in radiation oncology; renovating the department and increasing the staff fivefold to 50; adding services such as radiosurgery, total body irradiation for bone marrow transplants, and a full range of brachytherapy. She also prepared patient education booklets to help her patients better understand what to expect.

Prior to Mount Sinai, Dr. Shank spent 11 years at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New

York where she first served her residency in radiation oncology and went on to become an associate professor.

Dr. Shank, 58, resides in Berkeley with her husband, Charles

Elizabeth Marie F. Cerrito has received her doctorate of arts degree from the University of Oregon in Spanish, communication disorders and

John A. Wheeler of El Cerrito has received a doctor of jurisprudence degree from the University of Oregon in ceremonies held in Eugene this month.

Wedding



Colpuz-Apelt

Rick Schiller Photography

Mr. and Mrs. Benito Chavarria are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Rose Ann Colpuz, of Milpitas, to David L. Apelt of Berkeley. Rose is an assistant manager for Macy's West, and David works for San Francisco State University, academic resources. Rose is a graduate of Milpitas High School, while David graduated from Salesian High School in Richmond. Both hold bachelor's degrees in finance from San Francisco State University. David is studying for his MA in English Literature at the university. The couple will be married August 8, at the Brazil Room in Berkeley's Tilden Park. A honeymoon in France and Italy is planned. Upon their return they will make their home in Albany.

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Perseverant local artist works on digital creations

The foyer/gallery of the Community Library in Albany is filled these days with a most colorful and beautiful exhibit of digital art, the work of Albany artist Melanie Hofmann. Fascinated by the digital textile pieces, in the digital studio, Moonfire Textiles.

Hofmann explains her work in detail, and it is the work of a very modern artist. It involves a combination of

techniques, including screen printing, appliqué and sewing. The computer plays a large part in her work, all of which she explains in the statement displayed on the wall along with her work. Sitting in her small studio I was impressed by the sophisticated equipment she uses to produce her pieces. And I was equally impressed by her handling of color and texture.

I had previously met Melanie several years ago when I interviewed her then-husband,

Stephen Hofmann who, although wheelchair bound by Cerebral Palsy, had earned a Masters degree, and taught and counseled in the schools. His condition, Melanie says, "made life difficult and exciting." She reports that he is now working on a Ph.D.

Born in Seattle, Wash., Melanie, her mother and siblings moved to Pleasant Hill after her parents' divorce. She attended Berkeley High School and then two years at the College of Marin, where she studied art in a variety of mediums: ceramics, design and weaving among them. She pauses in her narration to remember her previous school. When she was 9, she says, her parents sent all three of the children to a private school "one of the '60s schools, modeled after Summerhill." It was very loosely structured, with no grades, no set subjects or schedules, and was student-directed. The students

determined what they wanted to learn, and the teachers followed that direction. It was there, Melanie says, that she first became interested in the art that was popular then: batik, tie dye, card weaving and inkle weaving. "That was what I wanted to do when I grew up."

As she grew up, however, and became an adult, "People started telling me I had to do something more practical." She started college at 17. At 19 she went to Mexico where she studied weaving and other kinds of art. How did she happen to go to Mexico? "I knew someone who had gone there and it sounded like it would be really exciting." However, when she returned she brought with her hepatitis and diabetes. "If I had to do it over again I would never have gone," she says, rather dolefully, "It changed my life."

She speaks of how homesick she was, how she missed her family and friends, and then, of the really terrible thing that happened to her. She had been living in Mexico for about four months when a man with a gun broke into her house where she was living alone. She was raped, she says, and adds that since she had no telephone she had to go to the police station, where she received no help. "They wouldn't even take a report" she remembers. She also received no help from the school. "It really had a big impact on my

Community Folk

By Clara Rae Genser



live," she says.

She returned home, went back to school, earning her BA in recreation, went to work and got married but "inside my life was falling apart. I didn't feel good at all. A lot of what's happening in my life now are things that would have happened then if I hadn't had that experience." Some of her pieces at the exhibit reflect that experience.

The Hofmanns had a daughter, Emily, who is now 7. Melanie's eyes light up as she talks about Emily who is studying African dance, "and is very good at it." Emily, she says, is very outgoing and friendly, and is doing fine academically.

She speaks of her first job out of college, as activity director in a convalescent hospital. "Of course, I incorporated a lot of art into the program, in addition to exercise classes, bingo games and room visiting." She says she read to the patients, chatted with them and, often, helped them register and vote.

In 1990 she went back to school at the California College of Arts and Crafts, where she majored in textile. Emily was

born in 1991. "The whole first year I was pregnant. Two of the things I always wanted, but I just never expected them to happen at the same time."

After her separation from Stephen, Melanie looked for jobs in the textile design field. However, most of them required time that she needed to take care of Emily. She finally decided to go into business for herself.

It was in 1997 that she rented the studio and set it up to do design work on the computer, and screen print work. Screen printing, she explains, requires a lot of special equipment, pointing out things like the special padded tables and shelves, and exposure unit for silk screen and other items. It took her two to three months just to get set up.

Since then she has gotten business mainly through family and friends—a pretty wide variety of jobs. She showed me two magazine ads she had done, some T-shirts and other things, mostly for small companies.

She is very excited about the show in Albany, and says her framed digital art and screen prints on paper and fabric may also be viewed at the Virgin Bull Horse Art Store, 1122 Lincoln Ave. in Alameda; the ProArts web site, www.lmi.net/proarts98; and the Surface Design Association web site, www.art.vidaho.edu/sda/.

Melanie Hofmann can be reached at Moonfire Textiles, 524-4966 or by email at MHtextile3@aol.com.

It was interesting meeting Melanie again, and learning to know the "new" Melanie Hofmann.

As always, I invite your input: interesting people, events, organizations, etc. Write to me at 555 Pierce St., #443, Albany, CA 94706 or call 525-4585. My email is crgenser@aol.com

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With summer picnics and outdoor entertaining around the corner, BellBirds ready-to-eat poultry pleasures are a welcome treat for any meal. Pick up your favorites or have them create a ready-made party platter. Stop by and sample the sau-

sages or chicken ... you'll get hooked. BellBirds offers indoor or patio dining. Enjoy the hearty chicken gumbo, Chicken Caesar salad, sandwiches, Mel's Bird in a Bag, chicken garlic burger and turkey pastrami. Open 7 days. Don't be "chicken" ... stop by BellBirds.

Cafe Tululah

2512 San Pablo Ave. • Berkeley
(510) 548-4697

What's not to like? Great food, carefully prepared, in a charming setting. Owners, Liane Ingham and Debra Geiler, are reminiscent of caring family who pride themselves on serving delicious, health conscious food. Enjoy indoor or outdoor patio dining in a tree-lined patio. Indulge in Cafe Tululah red russet potatoes and yams, homemade hash, tofu scramble and more.

Lunch fare includes a variety of fresh salads, heaping sandwiches, pasta and other yummys. Private parties and business luncheons are catered. Details to insure a successful event are something you can rely on at Cafe Tululah. Start your day right ... open 7 days.

China Village

1335 Solano Ave. • Albany
(510) 525-2285

The restaurant's menu features close to 140 items, each carefully prepared with combinations of ingredients that excite the palate. Some of the chef's specials include orange peel beef (crispy beef), prime rib steak with black pepper, Chinese steak on sizzling clay pot, Hunan and Changsha chicken and pine nut chicken in garlic sauce.

Long Life Vegi House

2129 University Ave. • Berkeley
(510) 845-6072

David Tsang, proprietor is celebrating 18 years on University Avenue. The atmosphere is casual. Vegetarian and seafood dishes are the specialties. Beer and wine.

Lunch daily from 11:30 to 3:00 p.m. (\$4 to \$5). Early bird daily specials from 3:30 to 5:00 p.m. (\$4.95 to \$5.95). Dinner is served daily from 3:00-9:30 p.m.

Nava Restaurant

5478 College Ave. • Rockridge • Oakland (510) 655-4770

Excellent Southwestern cuisine, Santa Fe style will surely please your palate. The menu includes spicy, succulent seafood featuring salmon, clams, halibut and seasonal fish. Nava's wood-grilled rack of lamb comes with fresh mint pesto.

Another special is seared medium-rare ahi tuna with ancho chile and chipotle aioli. Treat yourself to wonderful flavors ... and the 2 for 1 coupon is another bonus.

Parkway Theater

1834 Park Blvd. • Oakland
(510) 814-2400

www.picturepubpizza.com

It's fun! It's more than a cinema. It's a movie and "wine 'n dine" experience ... all under one roof. Instead of traditional aisle seating, the Parkway Theater is furnished with table and chair seating, along with a bunch of comfy couches and coffee tables. Order pizza, or a salad and other simple but tasty fare and it will

be brought to your table during the movie. An impressive selection of wine and beer selections are available. Admission is a mere \$3.00 and Wednesday's it's 2 for 1.

You must be 21 years or older for weekend matinees. Slip off your shoes, stretch out, chat with friends or strangers and enjoy the informal atmosphere. The couches go fast, so get there early.

Restoran Rasa Sayang

977 San Pablo Ave. • Albany
(510) 525-7000

Malaysian cuisine, is a combination of culture and locally available foods. Rice is a Malaysian staple and Sundri, owner and chef of Restoran Rasa Sayang, explains, "Everything goes on top of rice - curry, seafood, meat, chicken and vegetables. Many of our vegetables and fruits (cabbage, Chinese eggplant, mustard greens, broccoli, etc.) are grown in the highlands. From the sea comes pomfret (a flat fish) and seabass."

The flavors and spices of Malaysian cuisine is something you must experience to appreciate. The soups, salads and entrees can be prepared mild to spicy. Many Malaysian dishes share Indian, Thai and Chinese flavorings ... similar but with subtle differences. Martin Yan of "Yan Can Cook" visited Sundri then invited her to be part of his Asian Cuisine series. Rasa Sayang definitely should be on your dining-out list.

Sabina Indian Cuisine

1628 Webster St. • Oakland
(510) 268-0863

A favorite downtown Oakland restaurant since 1984, Sabina's features cuisine of Northern India. Always a hit are any of the Chicken Tandoori specials -- made in a clay pit with charcoal. The menu features a variety of seafood, chicken or lamb curries, saffron rice dishes, and a wide selection of vegetarian dishes.

The popular "All You Can Eat Lunch Buffet" (Monday - Friday) is a great bargain. The friendly, comfortable atmosphere makes this an award winning Bay Area favorite. Wine and beer. You can't go wrong dining here!

Solano Grill & Bar

1133 Solano Ave. • Albany
(510) 525-8686

Philip Chen, proprietor and Sam Chen, chef welcome you to this brasserie style eatery. Features include California dishes with an Asian flair, as well as European traditions.

Homemade gourmet desserts are worth indulging in. Lunch is served Monday through Sunday from 11:30-3:00 p.m. Dinner is served seven days starting at 5:00 p.m. Full bar open during dining hours. "Award of Excellence" from the Wine Spectator. Banquet facilities available.

Venezia Caffè and Ristorante

1799 University Ave. • Berkeley
(510) 849-4681

Venezia continues to improve with age. For 18 years, the restaurant has been serving wonderful Italian food. Now under the able hand of chef Steven Farmer, the flavors of old Italy continue to emanate from the kitchen. Few restaurants still make fresh pasta, but Venezia makes virtually all its pasta daily.

A new weekly menu keeps things fresh and the wine list still offers many terrific but affordable Italian wines. And, of course, the decor is still enchanting, with its floor to ceiling murals, clothesline dangling overhead, and bubbling fountain in the center of the room. The atmosphere is one of fun and relaxation while you feast. The knowledgeable, friendly waitstaff enhance your dining experience. Only daily, lunch Monday-Friday 11:30-2:30, dinner 5:30-10:00. Reservations accepted.

World Ground Cafe

3726 MacArthur • Oakland
(510) 482-2933

(Oops for last week's incorrect name & address)

Thanks to the persistence of Martha Rueca and Ulf Gustafsson, Oakland's Laurel District now has a Bohemian-style neighborhood cafe where the community can gather for a real cup of coffee. Estate and organic coffees ... 16 blends are sold by the cup or the pound.

What's coffee without food? Check out the healthy, delicious soups, salads and sandwiches. Also World Ground Cafe is proud to feature the best of baked goods brought in from

Scones Inc., Joani's in Corte Madera, Whole Foods, Noah's Bagels and Elmwood Natural Foods.

Their JAVA Spotlight translates into poetry readings at 7:30 p.m. on the third Thursday of the month (July 18). One of the most outstanding features of this delightful cafe is the commuter friendly hours, opening at

6:30 a.m. and closing at 10:00 p.m. and its close proximity to Hwy. 13. It's a rare treat in a hectic world to find such a reception and cheerful staff. Mention robust coffee and food. Mark your calendar. Jazz night ... yet another reason to drop by.

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www.best.com/~bdb/sabina/intro.htm

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Titanic 5 & 9 p.m.
(U) He Got Game 7 p.m.
(U) Spanish Prisoner 9:45 p.m.
SATURDAY, July 4, 1998
He Got Game 2:30 p.m.
(U) Spanish Prisoner 3 p.m.
Titanic 5 & 9 p.m.
He Got Game 7 p.m.
Spanish Prisoner 9:45 p.m.
SUNDAY, July 5, 1998
Spanish Prisoner 2:30 p.m.
(U) He Got Game 3 p.m.
Titanic 5 & 9 p.m.
(U) He Got Game 7 p.m.
Spanish Prisoner 9:45 p.m.
MON. - THURS., July 6 - July 9, 1998
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(U) Spanish Prisoner 9:45 p.m.
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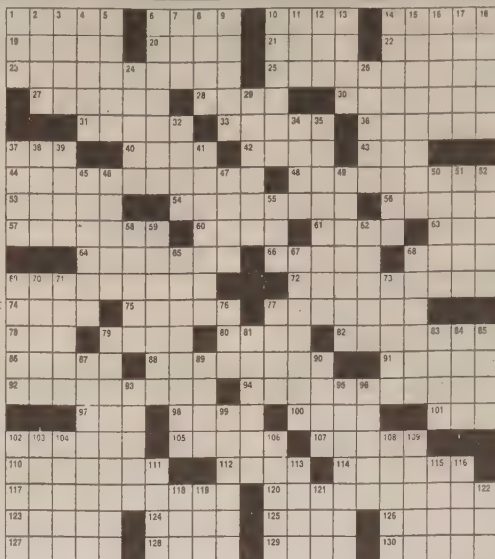
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New York Times Magazine Puzzle

AT THE DINER

BY FRED PISCOP / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

- ACROSS**
- 56 Conduct, in a way
 - 57 Pasta or potato, to an athlete
 - 58 Saint in Italy
 - 59 Damsel, in a commercial
 - 60 Hood
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 - 62 The exterminator ordered
 - 63 The horologist ordered
 - 64 Em, for example
 - 65 Song word after "Aha"
 - 66 "ed division process"
 - 67 Introduction to physics
 - 68 Disinfect
 - 69 Blue book filler
 - 70 Razor-billed bird
 - 71 Stampeders
 - 72 Gray wolf
 - 73 Pantry pest
 - 74 The nept furniture mover ordered
 - 75 The wild pitcher ordered
 - 76 Illegal parker's worry
 - 77 Penitents
- DOWN**
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 - 128 "Exodus" role
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- 71 Word of politeness
- 72 Hospital supply
- 73 Professional suffix
- 74 Ring fighter
- 75 Reached the vanishing point
- 76 Car bomb?
- 77 Gets serious, with "up"
- 78 Wired
- 79 Utah state flower
- 80 Give or take
- 81 Gesturer
- 82 Cousin of a canvassback
- 83 Time of decision
- 84 Goa garment
- 85 Tries not to attract attention
- 86 Car bomb?
- 87 Gets serious, with "up"
- 88 Wired
- 89 Vanquishes
- 90 Let out
- 91 Halitosis fighter
- 92 Younger siblings, traditionally
- 93 Crows' homes
- 94 Prefix with "pathy"
- 95 Square-ended vessel
- 96 The "id" in "id est"
- 97 Sleekly designed
- 98 Flaw
- 99 Hollywood autobiography subtitled "My Story"
- 100 Bit of Florida
- 101 Nonpolluting
- 102 El adjoiner

Goings On About Town

Submissions to Goings on About Town must be received Thursdays one week prior to publication. Listings are on a space-available basis.

Children

City of Berkeley's Young Adult Project - 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. through Aug. 2. Two summer programs for youth, the Rainbow Connection will operate inside the Martin Luther King, Jr. Youth Services Center, 1730 Oregon St., Berkeley. Ages five to 11. Fees are \$13 per week for residents and \$60 for nonresidents. Extended care program will be offered from 7-10 a.m. and 3-6 p.m., fees are \$65 per week. Registration has already started. Call 644-6226 for information.

Ice Cream Day - Wednesday, July 8, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Find out if there's really "ice" and "cream" in ice cream. Sniff out real versus artificial flavors. Compare the cream you make, with commercial brands, and see if you can taste the difference. Lawrence Hall of Science, UC Berkeley, 642-5132.

Child Research Project - UC Berkeley's Child Study Center are looking for families with 4 to 8 year old children to participate in a research project on children's responses to the daily challenges they encounter. Participating families will be compensated \$15 for their time. For more information, contact 643-3322.

Golden Bear Gymnastics Camps - Three camps available. All camps can be attended morning only, afternoon only, or all day. Camps are for boys and girls ages 4-18. Morning times are 9 to noon, afternoon times are 12:30 to 3:30 p.m., and all day times are 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Camps are July 13-17, second camp is July 20-24, and third camp is Aug. 17-21. Extended care is available for the after-

noon and all day camps from 3:30 to 5 p.m. Golden Bear Recreation Center, Sports Lane #428, Berkeley, 94720. Call 642-9821.

Classes

The Albany Pool - Summer Session has started; a complete schedule is at the pool, 1311 Portland Ave., Albany, 559-6640.

Get a head start in College by enrolling in university transfer classes this summer at **Vista Community College** for example: Brush up your Shakespeare, combining academics and viewing live performance; 6 - 10 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays - Registration is June 22 - July 31. Call 841-8860, ext. 231 or Ext. 267 for more information, or access the website at www.peralta.cc.ca.us.

Regional Park District's Third Annual Educators Academy - offering three day courses starting every Tuesday from June 23 through Aug 11. Each course earns two quarter units through the extension program at California State University, Hayward. For more info call 635-0138, ext. 2208.

Community Events

Berkeley High School Reunion - Classes of January 1958, June 1958, and January 1959 will be holding their 40th year class reunion on Saturday, Septem-

ber 26 at the Holiday Inn in Emeryville. Interested class members should contact Steve Honeychurch (925) 837-9235 or Karen Skeels Vermees (925) 932-2424. Cover to Cover '98 - through Aug. 15 teens read for prizes at the Berkeley

Public Library. If you are between 13 and 18, you register at any Berkeley Public Library, details are posted in the Teen Areas at all Berkeley Public Library sites; 644-6100.

North Berkeley Senior Center
July 2: ballroom dance lessons with Roamn Ostrowski at 1 p.m.; July 6: classical piano with Steven Arntson at 1:15 p.m.
July 7: gentle exercise with Lauri Light at 1-2:30 p.m.; July 8: Polynesian dance with Lugard Eckel at 9:30 a.m.; July 9: video "The Kid" at 1 p.m.
1910 Hearst and MLK Jr. Way, Berkeley, 644-6107.

Kensington 55+ Senior Center
July 2: Picnic. Annual excursion to nearby Blake Gardens. Lunch prepared by Center volunteers. No Red Cross blood pressure check. July 9: Travel. Jackie Hetman presents "The Canals of South Holland."
52 Arlington Ave. Kensington, 526-9146.

Bargain Basement Bonanza - At the Berkeley Richmond Community Center, July 5th, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.; 1414 Walnut St. at Rose.

Exhibits

Sticks Gallery - Paintings by Chandra Garsson and Bob Stang. Exhibition dates are now through July 16 at 1579B Solano Ave., Berkeley, 826-6603.

Audacity Designs - Painted furniture by Chandra Garsson; through August at 1747 Solano Ave., Berkeley.

Berkeley Art Museum - Wendy Ewald: Collaborative Portraits; through July 5
2625 Durant Ave., Berkeley; 642-0808.

Berkeley Historical Society 20th Anniversary Exhibit - through Aug. 26; featuring programs exhibits and publications offered over the 20 years; Veterans Memorial Building, 1931 Center Street, Berkeley; 848-0181.

An Exhibit of Historic Materials - through Sept. 6; never before seen! Stalin's Forgotten Zion: Birobidzhan and the making of a Soviet Jewish Homeland; Magnes Museum, 2911 Russell St.; 549-6950.

The Visible Word - through July 31. An exhibit of ancient and contemporary Byzantine; Flora Lamson Hewlett Library, Graduate Theological Union, 2400 Ridge Road, Berkeley

Meetings

Alta Bates Support Groups - Stroke Support group meets the first Tuesday of every month; 4 - 5 p.m.; 204-4503. Arthritis Support Group meets the second Tuesday of every month; 1 - 2:30 p.m.; 204-4503. Call for additional special events

Theater, dance and film

The Odyssey - July 11, 12, 18, and 19 at Willard Park, 1 p.m.; through Aug. 30. For schedule or information call 655-0813.

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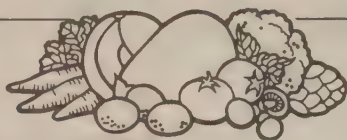
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Proposed Organic Standards USDA to make changes

A record breaking 200,000 responses were received

Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman announced that the U.S. Department of Agriculture will make fundamental revisions to its proposed national organic standards.

The first draft, published on December 16, 1997, proposed standards for growing, processing, labeling, importing, and certifying organically grown food. "USDA is committed to developing national organic standards that organic farmers and consumers will embrace," Glickman said. "Thousands of commenters requested that USDA issue revised proposed standards, and we intend to do so." Most of the comments opposed including the products of biotechnology, the use of irradiation in food processing, and the application of biosolids (municipal sludge) in organic food production.

"Biotechnology, irradiation, and biosolids are safe and have important roles to play in agriculture, but they neither fit current organic practices nor meet current consumer expectations about organics, as the comments made clear," said Glickman. "Therefore, these products and practices will not be included in our revised proposal, and food produced with these products and practices will not be allowed to bear the organic label."

"If organic farmers and consumers reject our national standards, we have failed," Glickman said. "Our task is to stimulate the growth of organic agriculture, ensure that consumers have confidence in the products that bear the organic label, and develop export markets for this growing industry."

Before publishing the revised proposal, USDA will evaluate the comments submitted in response to the December 1997 proposal. This record will guide the drafting of the revised proposal, which USDA will issue for public comment later this year.

"This additional opportunity for public comment will assist us in crafting rigorous, credible national standards for organic farming and handling that organic farmers and consumers can support," said Glickman.

Thanks for your Comments

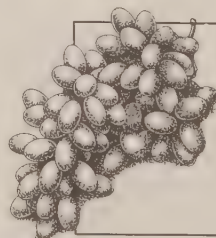
But, this is not the end, just a new beginning. There will be more work to do before the organic standards become finalized

Specials



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Whole Watermelon
29¢ lb.

Hegar Farms, El Centro, CA QAI



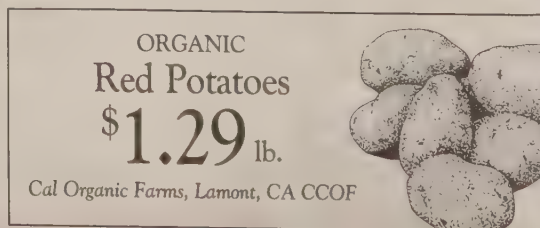
ORGANIC
Green Grapes
\$1.69 lb.

Pavich Family Farms, Terra Bella, CA CCOF



ORGANIC
Carrots
39¢ lb.

Cal Organic Farms, Lamont, CA CCOF



ORGANIC
Red Potatoes
\$1.29 lb.

Cal Organic Farms, Lamont, CA CCOF

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Real Estate

The Montclarion
The Piedmonter
The Berkeley Voice
The Journal
July 2-3, 1998
B-1

After six happy years, keeping it all straight boils down to an art

For quite a while now, the accumulation has been driving us crazy; there was so much of it. Day after day we'd arrive at the office, fight through the stacks to get to our desks, and say aloud, "We've got to find time to deal with all this."

I think it was the hardest on Anet. She is the queen of record keepers. Her closed sales files are a wonder of order. Every paper is punched at the top and precisely fitted over a metal holder and not a one is missing. I tease her about her compulsion, tell her that her files would dazzle the Department of Real Estate auditor. I know the auditor has never seen any better.

Anet has always willingly, devotedly made order out of paper chaos. The problem was that we hadn't discarded anything we'd worked on in six years. As is always true when facing too much stuff in a space too small to contain it, we had to decide where to

begin. It's the starting that is the killer.

I began with my part; Anet did other things. I keep a folder for everyone who contacts us, talks about buying or selling. The office was overflowing with these files, with all this.

Every contact file I am keeping fits inside one fairly empty file drawer. Such satisfaction.

would need them ever again, and began to make a pile of discards. I didn't make myself any promises about how far I'd go. I might have stopped after the first handful but I didn't. I got into what I was doing and kept going.

Stacks of discards were piled around my feet. In the end, every contact file I am keeping fits inside one fairly empty file drawer. Such satisfaction.

I was charged now, but quit for the day, beginning again the next

See TARPOFF on page 2

Feng Shui and real estate

Berkeley Association of Realtors



Photo by Karen Ward

Feng Shui consultant, Jody Hymes, center, recently spoke to over 60 Berkeley Realtors at a workshop sponsored by Chris Donchin, left, and Karen Ward of C.M.G. Mortgage.

Buyers and sellers aiming for win/win results in their real estate transactions should consider putting the principles of Feng Shui to use...

Feng Shui (pronounced fung schway) creates harmony within living and work spaces by balancing property to achieve

quality of life for family, health, relationships, personal development, career and wealth.

"Feng Shui can help the buying and selling processes go smoother, assuring the best outcome for each party," said Feng Shui consultant Jody Hymes at a recent seminar held at the

Berkeley Association of Realtors. Hymes' seminar was full of advice for both the buyer and the seller

"Selling brings closure," she said, "while buying launches new opportunities." To learn more about these principles, call Hymes at 339-7639

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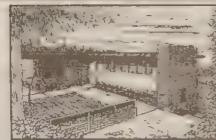
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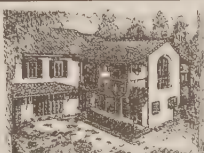
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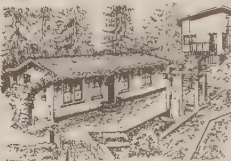


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OLD (AND NEW!) IN MONTCLAIR!.....\$359,000
Circa 1925 Traditional w/craftsman details. Updated with stunning new baths, second kit/au pair. Fam rm, sauna & hot tub. Detached office, wkshp. STEVEN BIASATTI 339-8900 x 239

STUNNING UPPER ROCKRIDGE HOME.....\$679,000
Fabulous 4BR, 4BA, custom home with expansive vistas. Large family room, 2 master suites. Au-pair set up. Reduced \$20,000. Top value! CAROL COHEN 339-8900 x 225

THE COUNTRY IN THE CITY.....\$499,000
10.3 acres in the city Rustic 2BR, 1BA rustic log cabin surrounded by park. SUE WILLIAMS 339-8900 x 229

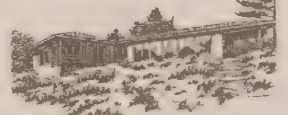
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MONTCLAIR-WOODSY SERENE SETTING.....\$359,000
Dramatic cont. superb condition, grt kit w/chermy wood and granite! Craftsman details, decks, yard, sep office, good schools! Quiet & private! Sparkles! MEL COPLAND 339-8900 x 255

WALLS OF MIRROR AND GLASS!.....\$339,000
Crestmont 3BR, 2.5BA, bay view home. So many amenities including lg level lot, hwd floors, updated kitchen/BA, walk to park, bus and swim/fitness/tennis club! JAN NEFF 339-8900 x 243

NEW LISTING! READY TO GO!.....\$309,500
Rancho San Miguel 3BR, 2BA, all-level Eichler with picture windows overlooking huge fenced yard. Fireplace, family room and great location! JAN NEFF 339-8900 x 243

BREATHTAKING VIEW - GREAT PRICE.....\$280,000
Crestmont panoramic view 3BR, 2BA home with fireplace, hardwood floors, level fenced yard. Plus rm for home office-den. Close to parks and transportation. JAN NEFF 339-8900 x 243



BAY VIEW IN HILLCREST ESTATES.....\$695,000
Almost 2 acres with Mission-style one level home. Very private! 4BR, 2.5BA, formal dining room, family room. Small barn used as home office. HELEN NICHOLAS 339-8900 x 238



MONTCLAIR - SPACIOUS.....\$339,000
Stretch out in this 2,454 sq. ft. contemporary at end of quiet cul-de-sac. 4BR, 2.5BA, family room. Use one bedroom as home office. Double garage. HAL CASTLE 339-8900 x 220

CHARMING TRADITIONAL.....\$245,500
Lincoln Hts. charmer! 2BR, 1.5BA, DR, hwd flrs, breakfast nook, office, rumpus rm. Yard, great location, & more!! Open Sunday 2-4:30. MEL COPLAND 339-8900 x 255

THE GOOD EARTH.....\$75K - 315K
① 43 acres near San Pablo Dam Rec area in bucolic El Sobrante. ② Skyline 3 contiguous lots bay view. ③ Skyline/ Broadway Terrace, 3 contiguous lots 315K. ④ Broadway Terrace, View plus, \$149.5K. NICK LAVROV 339-8900 x 219

♦ TIP OF THE WEEK ♦

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Stable interest rates boon to home sales

In the June 25 Freddie Mac Primary Mortgage Market Survey, the 30-year fixed-rate mortgage averaged 6.96 percent, with fees and points averaging 1 percent. This bellwether rate rose 2 basis points from last week when it averaged 7.94 percent. In the last week of June 1997, the 30-year fixed averaged 7.58 percent.

The start rate for the one-year Treasury-indexed adjustable-rate mortgages (ARMs) averaged 5.68 percent with fees averaging 1.1 percent, unchanged from last week's average. This time last year this start rate averaged 5.66 percent.

This week's average for 15-year fixed-rate mortgages, a popular option in the refinancing market, was up 2 basis points to 6.64 percent from last week's average of 6.62 percent. Fees and points averaged 1.1 percent.

A year ago, the 15-year fixed averaged 7.13 percent.

"Mortgage interest rates remain incredibly affordable," said Freddie Mac chief economist Robert Van Order.

"This has been a boon to the housing industry, as witnessed by the rise in existing home sales in May. Meanwhile, figures released on June 25 show that Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is up, the economy expanding and still no signs of inflation to cause concern."

Freddie Mac is a stockholder-owned corporation chartered by Congress in 1970 to create a continuous flow of funds to mortgage lenders.

The organization supplies lenders with the money to make mortgages and then packages these mortgages into marketable securities.

In this way Freddie Mac sustains a stable mortgage credit system and reduces the mortgage rates paid by home buyers.

Over the years, Freddie Mac has opened the doors for one in six

home buyers and two million renters in America.

More information about Freddie Mac can be found on the company's Web site, www.freddie.com.

Updates on the latest Freddie Mac averages are available each Thursday after noon Call toll free 888-780-2060 for updates.

On June 30 the Federal Home Loan Bank of San Francisco pegged the 11th District Cost of Funds Index (COFI) for July 1998 payments at 4.881 percent down just over 2 basis points from the 4.903 percent that was in effect for June 1998 payments. The COFI is the index widely used by the savings and loan industry for its ARMs.

Tarpoiff

Continued from page one

morning. Anet was impressed by my advances but she wasn't throwing anything away yet. She did bring the garbage can and recycling bin up near the door for me.

I got rid of old house flyers and columns, outdated Blue Cross papers and multiple listing books.

As I worked I thought about offices I've worked in over the years, files I've cleaned out before, whole offices that I've packed up for moving. And I thought about how much paperwork the world holds: staggering amounts.

The office was looking better, and I was feeling lighter. It took a few more days before Anet was ready to plunge in.

She does all the accounting, pays the bills, deals with our taxes, bal-

ances the checkbooks and files all the attendant paper.

For about five years there had been enough space to put these things away but now there were bank statements and utility bills, receipts for open house food and the like, neatly wrapped with rubber bands, all out in the open or in the grocery bags. Anet said it was time; she could begin. I said I'd help; we'd fix it.

First thing the next morning we bought folding storage boxes, then went to the office to begin. We simply started in: picked up a stack of papers and sorted them, picked up another and did it again. There really isn't any other way.

Just as had been true for me, once Anet began, she was a maniac; she wouldn't even stop for lunch. Spurred on by the sight of dwindling paper stacks and discernible clearings on her desk, she kept on going, asking frequently, "Do we need this?"

We spent all day working and ended up with a glorious sight: one lightly filled filing drawer plus five storage boxes, each marked with a year.

The drawer is for 1998. Each box contains tax returns, receipts, bank statements and telephone logs for the labeled year.

I told Anet that we'll probably never need any of them, but they're

there if we do. I also told her our next paper crisis will be about five more years when we got 11 years of everything somewhere.

I'm not sure but I think it is supposed to be saved years. Fortunately, the Department of Real Estate allows us to discard closed after only five.

Pat Talbert and Anet Talbert are licensed agents and real estate consultants who also offer home rate consulting and counseling. They can be reached at 653-2000.

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1248 ROSEWOOD WAY. Shows Beautifully! \$229,000. 945 EAGLE AVE. 2 BD, 1 BA, apt only. \$192,000. 100 LAWRENCE RD. 3 BD, 2 BA, many upgrades, hot tub, corner lot, landscaping \$385,000. 146 LAWRENCE RD. Beautiful home \$370,000. 1236 PEARL ST. 3 BD, 1 BA, DUCED TO \$219,000. **PENDING**

OAKLAND
2633 HAROLD. Diamond Dist. 28 formal dining room. REDUCED \$130,000!

SAN LEANDRO
14018 OUTRIGGER DR. 2 BD, townhouse. \$182,000. RETAIL/COMM. BLDG. 6,000 sq. ft. Bayfair. \$375,000. 14318 BEAQUE DR. 2 BD, 1 BA, immaculate. **SOLD**

BERKELEY
1910 SAN ANTONIO. 3 BD, 1 BA, Custom home. \$460,000. **PENDING**

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- 6174 Mazuela Dr., Montclair - 5bd/4ba**..... \$895,000
Beautiful, traditional styled new construction. SF views, large kitchen/family room with fireplace, 3-car garage. Patricia Scott
- 950 Mountain Blvd., Montclair - 4bd/3ba**..... \$725,000
Stunning new home w/versatile floor plan. Privacy and light, large kit/nook/din rm, sunken LR & courtyard. David Ichikawa
- 4245 Wilshire Blvd., Lincoln Heights - 3bd/2+ba**..... \$424,000
Fabulous SF & GG views, garden w/huge play area, family room off kit, large lot, easy SF commute. Helen Danhaki: 547-5750
- 4121 St. Andrews Rd., Sequoyah Hills - 4bd/3ba**..... \$379,000
Charming remodeled home in country setting. Wonderful outdoor spaces, deck, new kit & baths, two master suites deck. David Ichikawa
- 6070 Thornhill Ct., Montclair - 2+bd/2ba**..... \$299,000
New listing! Move-in condition. Quiet cul-de-sac, close to bus and transportation. Hw'd floors, fpl, formal DR. Carolyn Jones

BY APPOINTMENT

- PIEDMONT MEDITERRANEAN**..... \$1,395,000
Beautiful home with sweeping SF bay views. Superb flow for family & entertaining. 4BD/4BA including guest quarters, pool & spa. Sally Morrison
- HILLTOP ESTATE**..... \$1,275,000
Dramatic SF & GG views from every room! 5BD/4BA, formal and family spaces, exceptional outdoor living/play areas. Robyn Mohr
- CLAREMONT HILLS**..... \$1,095,000
This spectacular 5,000 sq. ft. retreat is a work of art. Exceptional SF & GG views, 3+BD/3+BA, incredible kitchen/family room. Patricia Scott
- EXCEPTIONAL QUALITY**..... \$1,045,000
Reduced! Stunning design and craftsmanship! 4BD/3BA, sweeping SF Bay views from almost every room. Dick Cohen & Sandi Klemmer
- ULTIMATE PRIVACY & LUXURY**..... \$874,000
Built on 1.4 acres surrounded by miles of parkland. 5BD/3BA, soaring ceilings, elegant great room, formal dining, all quality materials. Helen Danhaki 547-5750
- MONTCLAIR NEW CONSTRUCTION**..... \$669,000
New 4BD/3BA home on 1/4 acre private lot. Filtered Bay views, kitchen/family room combo, bonus room downstairs. David Ichikawa
- ORINDA SCHOOLS, OAKLAND COMMUTE!**..... \$559,000
Large 5BD/4BA home on 1/3 acre, completely fenced for ultimate privacy. Panoramic SF and hill views. Needs some TLC. Michelle Vasey
- PIEDMONT SIDE OF MONTCLAIR**..... \$489,000
4BD/2BA home on 1/4 acre retreat. Tiered front garden, large yard and serene wooded outlook. Jeffrey Himmel
- STUNNING VIEWS**..... \$484,900
Reduced! SF/GGate view home with 4BD/2+BA, luxurious master suite with view, kitchen/family room, level yard. Robyn Mohr
- PANORAMIC BAY & SF VIEW**..... \$419,000
Spacious contemporary with decks & gardens. 3BD/2+BA, rumpus room, large eat-in kitchen, air conditioning, 2-car garage. Donna DeBardi
- ELMWOOD TRIPLEX**..... \$399,000
Charming 1BD/1BA units, two with cathedral ceiling & fireplace. Wooded setting, walk to Rick & Ann's. Debi Fitzgenell
- NEW CUSTOM HOME**..... \$389,000
Sophisticated yet comfortable for easy living. Open floor plan, cathedral ceilings, state-of-the-art kitchen, 6BD/2+BA including master retreat. Teri Carlisle
- WOODED RETREAT**..... \$385,000
Open floor plan, 3BD/3BA including master suite with remodeled bath, downstairs "great room", level back yard 2-car garage. Lee Jacobson
- CLASSIC RIDGEMONT**..... \$359,000
Best buy in Ridgemont! Spacious, sunny 3BD/2+BA on cul-de-sac with level yard, hill views & den. Jeffrey Himmel
- MONTCLAIR CONTEMPORARY**..... \$329,000
Friendly neighborhood, close to Montclair Village. Well planned 3BD/2BA home with optional 4th bdrm or family room. Sally Morrison
- PIEDMONT AVENUE TRIPLEX**..... \$305,000
Charming triplex with roomy one bedroom flats. 2 fireplaces, 2 dining rooms, yard and redwood trees. Lee Jacobson
- PIEDMONT AVENUE**..... \$289,000
Great split level at end of cul-de-sac. 3BD/2BA, 3rd bdrm family rm with French doors to large private yard, formal DR. Thomas Wurst
- COUNTRY LIVING**..... \$289,000
Move right in! One level, 3BD/2BA including master that opens to lovely garden with deck & spa. Redwood Heights elementary school. Carolyn Jones
- UPDATED LAUREL BUNGALOW**..... \$259,000
Sunny, all-level 3BD/2BA with updated kitchen, formal dining room, fireplace, level yard, detached office/studio. Jeffrey Himmel
- CHARMING RANCH - REDWOOD HEIGHTS**..... \$249,900
3BD/1+BA home on a sunny cul-de-sac. Garden views from living room & spacious kitchen. Plus room downstairs. Diane Earl McCann
- ORIGINAL 1920's COTTAGE**..... \$249,000
2BD/1.5BA home on large secluded lot off private drive. Updated kitchen, plus space with bath & separate access. 2-car garage. Michelle Vasey
- SHEFFIELD VILLAGE CHARMER**..... \$215,000
Sunny 2BD/1BA home with hardwood floors, formal dining room, remodeled kitchen, level yard, 2-car garage. Robyn Mohr
- MONTCLAIR LOT**..... \$129,000
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- FIRST TIME BUYER OPPORTUNITY**..... \$119,000
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BERKELEY

GRAND CLAREMONT LANDMARK. Large foyer, 6BR, 5BA, 5 fireplaces, billiard room with wet bar, and carriage house. Convenient yet secluded location. Paul Templeton ext. 131..... \$1,575,000

GRAND 1911 HOME with double lot and beautiful pool! 5BR, 3.5BA, sun room, den, media room, huge formal dining room and master suite with study. Bebe McRae ext. 145..... \$1,000,000

BAY VIEWS! 4BR, sun room, den, gourmet kitchen/family room in prestigious Upper Thousand Oaks! Fenced yard, attached garage and stately architecture! Bebe McRae, ext. 145..... \$950,000

BEAUTIFUL NORTH BERKELEY SPANISH. Outstanding architecture. Bay views, swimming pool. Easy commute to San Francisco. 4+BR, 4BA. Jack McPhail, ext. 135..... \$645,000

CHARMING BROWN SHINGLE 3BR, 2BA plus in-law suite. San Francisco Bay view. Within walking distance of Campus. Marlene Leverette ext. 121..... \$495,000

DESIRABLE THOUSAND OAKS. Stunning views. Character and numerous upgrades. Granite kitchen counters, white washed cabinets. Versatile floor plan. 4BR, 2BA. Ruth Frassetto ext. 147..... \$429,000

SERENE & PRIVATE. Gracious traditional 3BR, 2BA plus home office, with spacious living room in desirable Park Hills development. Don't miss! Ron Eggheman ext. 127..... \$365,000

EASY ONE LEVEL LIVING in one of Berkeley's best neighborhoods! 3+BR, 2BA including master suite! Remodeled throughout! Spacious living/dining room with fireplace! Great indoor/outdoor living! Double garage. Susie Schervil ext. 144..... \$329,000

WONDERFUL LARGE TRADITIONAL. 4BR, 2.5BA. Terrific up & coming neighborhood. Level large yard-updated with sep. studio, offers a variety of uses. Ruth Frassetto ext. 147..... \$305,000

UNIQUE LOFT. Open & airy. Private, cozy yard. Needs finishing. Anne Van Dyke ext. 137..... \$224,000

OAKLAND

PRESTIGIOUS NEW DEVELOPMENT! High quality details! 4BR, 4BA, gourmet kitchen/family room, den & formal dining room. Bebe McRae ext. 145..... \$895,000

ABSOLUTELY CHARMING COTTAGE on large lot. 3BR, 2+BA. Paye Keogh ext. 126..... \$349,000

25 RAMONA, Open Sunday 2-4. Charming bungalow. 2BR, 1BA w/great garden. Near Piedmont border. Leslie Avant ext. 122..... \$249,000

RICHMOND VIEW

RANCH STYLE LIVING Only 20 minutes from Berkeley. 1/4 acre adjacent to Wildcat Canyon trails. Brown shingle home. 5BR, 3BA, fam rm, greenhouse, barn, corral, toolshed, spa & more. Not to be missed! Ron Eggheman ext. 127..... \$479,000

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Tips for first timers

Astute first-time home buyers come to us to get preapproved before they ever look at their first prospective house. In this sellers market, visiting your mortgage broker or loan officer at your bank is not only wise but, in most cases, essential. Often many real estate agents and sellers will not consider buyers as a potential candidates to purchase unless they do.

But what should the first timer do first before even contacting a lender?

One of our lenders, GMAC Mortgage, has put together a list of common problems that might be encountered when buying a house:

Financial information. Potential home buyers often fail to gather all the financial information needed to get a mortgage. Lenders want to know all about earnings, debts, obligations, cash assets, equities and, sometimes, taxes.

Borrowers need to collect at least the three most recent statements of any asset verified by a statement. Some accounts, such as retirement IRAs, pensions, 401(k)s, may only come quarterly, semi annually or annually. In those cases, make sure that you have the most recent statement and that the address and account number is available so that your loan officer can mail a verification of deposit as soon as possible.

The self employed. Self-employed borrowers need even more documentation. Many borrowers don't realize that they fall into the self-employed category. Ownership of 25 percent or more in a company or commissioned income mean different documentation requirements.

Most lenders require a two to three-year history that they will average to count the income. Three years of tax returns and 1099 forms will usually suffice for commissioned salespeople. Business owners will need corporate or partnership returns as well.

Credit problems. These can stop the home buying process cold. A major problem are credit explanations that are not adequately documented and supported or which do not relate to the dates of delinquencies on the credit report.

Gifts. If your parents or someone else is helping with the down payment or closing costs, be aware that the lender will require proof that the donor actually has the money to give along with a fully documented paper trail: a copy of the gift check, the deposit into the buyer's account and the check that goes to escrow.

Unrealistic expectations. If the borrowers spend a lot of time look-

MORTGAGE MADNESS



KAREN SENZIG

ing at property they can not afford, they are setting themselves up for disappointment. Once all documentation has been collected, run to your local loan officer to be prequalified. The lender will tell you precisely what you can afford and will promise to get you that loan if all the information pans out.

Fixer-uppers. Meanwhile, if you buy a house, and you know it's a fixer-upper and will need major repairs, then consider looking into a mortgage that will allow a home improvement line of credit—that is unless you are one of the fortunate few who, even though (or be-

cause) you are a first-time home buyer, has a bunch of money in the bank.

Remember that first-time home buyers include those who have not owned any kind of real estate for a minimum of three years, all those folks who took a vacation from "Mortgage Madness."

Karen Senzig is co-owner of Montclair Mortgage with her husband Scott. She can be reached 339-8511, fax 339-3814, e-mail at ksenzig@aol.com. Please contact her with any mortgage questions and/or topics for discussion.

Still going strong

Winans Construction, Inc. recently hosted a celebration of its 20th anniversary in business. Guests included clients, architects, subcontractors, suppliers and other professionals who have done business with the firm over the years.

Guests enjoyed a delicious buffet provided by The Cheshire Cat of San Francisco and were entered to win prizes donated by long time suppliers and subcontractors of Winans Construction.

Donors included Berkeley firms Coda Graphics, JW Lunt and Truitt and White Lumber Co.; Anderson Carpet and Linoleum, Feyerabend & Madden Landscape Design, Sally Freedman Interior Design, Roxanne Hamilton Interior Landscaping, Mueller Nicholls Inc., and

Summiters Radiant Heating, all of Oakland; and El Cerrito Lighting based in El Cerrito.

A recipient of numerous local and national awards, Winans Construction specializes in residential remodeling in the East Bay and San Francisco.

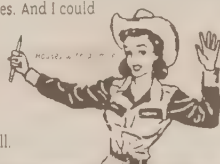
Co-owners Paul and Nina Winans are both active in the San Francisco Bay Area Chapter of the National Association of the Remodeling Industry (NARI). Paul is three-time past president and currently serves on the local and national boards of directors. Nina is the current chapter vice president.

Both are NARI Certified Remodelers; Winans' staff includes three NARI Certified Lead Car-

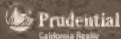
See WINANS on page 4

NOTHING FOR SALE (PLEASE HELP)

This week I was one of 10 offers on a house in Berkeley that went \$50,000 over asking. Whew. There's so many buyers and not enough houses. And I could go on, but to get an idea of what your house might be worth in this wild and crazy time, just give me a call.



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Russell Doi,
Loan Consultant



New Home of
Massimo & Earlyn

SATISFIED HOMEBUYER OF THE WEEK: MASSIMO & EARLYN

Russell worked diligently throughout our loan process to get us the best possible rates on financing. He helped us identify our particular needs and because of his extensive network, was able to create a personalized loan package that fit our financial goals. Because Russell made the effort to keep us and our realtor informed at every stage of the process, we closed with no surprises and right on schedule. Thanks Russell!

HOMES OPEN SUNDAY

3242 Desmond (2-4).....Rockridge.....3bd/2ba....\$298,000
325 "B" Jackson (2-4).....Albany.....2bd/2ba....\$195,000
913 Polk (2-4).....Albany.....2bd/1ba....\$199,000
1651 Tyler (2-4).....Berkeley.....2+bd/1ba....\$259,000
675 Jean (2-4).....Oakland.....4bd/2.5ba....\$279,000
2437 Edwards (2-4).....El Cerrito.....5bd/2ba....\$289,000

BY APPOINTMENT

ALBANY
New list! 2bd/2ba Condo with hills views! Frpl, Move-in cond....\$195,000
New list! Adorable strtr w/Art Deco kit, frpl in LR, hwdw flrs..\$199,000
BERKELEY
Rare Townhome: 2bd/1.5ba - 1/2 blk from Solano Ave. shops....\$229,000
Lovely light filled spacious 2bd/1ba Craftsman bungalow.....\$210,000
North Berk. 2bd/1.5ba townhouse - Huge LR, garage, nr UCB...\$185,000
New listing! Westbrae starter - 2bd/1ba - Priced to sell....\$165,000
4bd/3.5ba. Glorious hm. Vus, hw flrs, ofc. w/full ba! Needs TLC....\$355,000
New listing! Sunny 2 story brn shingle 3+bd/1.5ba.....\$365,000
Lot space - Top unit in great West Berk neighborhd, deck, vldg ceil....\$179,000
4+bd/4ba Contemp! Dramatic Pano vus frm 3 levels! Ofc/kit....\$549,000
Just listed! 3bd/2ba, charming craftsman stucco in N. Berk. Hills....\$289,000
New listing! W. Berkeley live/work condo on great street....\$185,000
New listing! Exquisite wood detail. 2+BR, wkshop, lg yard....\$260,000

Spectacular 4bd/3ba Monterey Colonial, gardens, upgrades....\$595,000

New list! 2+bd/1ba Crftmn w/exempt cottage in secret garden!...\$259,000

DANVILLE

Immac. 4bd/2ba Bettencourt Ranch hm. Many cust. upgrades....\$459,950

EL CERRITO

New listing! Custom designed & built, 4bd/3ba home, 7 yrs old....\$799,000

3bd/2ba - Creekside hm - buy now & work w/developer to build!...\$335,000

EC Hills 5bd/2ba w/piano views thru floor to ceil windows! Frplc....\$289,000

Lovely 2bd starter, beautiful & deep rear yard. Marble in kit....\$205,000

2bd/1ba, lovely home. Close to plaza & BART Lg. yd & garage....\$220,000

2bd/1.5ba. Condo - Excellent location, quiet side of Rose Park....\$149,000

New listing! Little gem awaiting polish! Tiny 1bd w/huge heart!...\$106,000

OAKLAND

New list! 3bd/1.5ba Light & lovely! Plus rm's kit, hw flrs, Fr. drs....\$379,000

3br/2.5ba Open, airy & spacious! Plus mstr w/sep entry. Lg yd....\$235,500

Just listed! 4bd/2.5ba on Pied border nr Grand shops/Rose grdn....\$279,000

RICHMOND

New list! Charming 2bd/1ba split lvl bungalow. Updated kitchen....\$179,900

3bd/2ba, bungalow remodel mstr bd suite w/big views! Sunken LR....\$175,000

2bd/1.5ba Overlooking Wildcat cyn! Over 1,200 sq! Huge mstr bd....\$169,000

SAN LEANDRO

Just listed! Mint qual. upgrades! 3bd/2ba, pano view!...\$219,500

LOTS/LAND/COMMERCIAL

Leased retail center - near BART & UC Berkeley....\$7,500,000

Newer architect designed office building.....\$1,695,000

Elmwood Established Bakers Business Oppor. w/good lease....\$85,000

Cafe business opportunity and lease! No. side Loc. nr UC....\$65,008

RESIDENTIAL INCOME

8 Units - 2bd/quality bldg. Each w/ a grdn/patio or balcony....\$735,000

8 Units - modern building with architectural flair.....\$329,000

Special brown shingle duplex! Warm inviting flats.....\$259,000

Huge 2 story townhouse style Duplex Deep lot'.....\$229,000

4 Units: Two 3bd/2ba & Two 2bd 1ba with upgrades galore!.....\$399,000



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EVENTS

The Events Calendar does not accept-for-profit listings. Announcements for these events can be made in our classified section by calling 339-8777. Listings are made on a space available basis.

Discover Oakland's changing skyline, landmarks, churches and high-rises on one of the Free Guided Walking Tours sponsored by the City's Community and Economic Development Agency. On Sat., July 4 at 10 a.m. tour Jack

Winans

Continued from page 3

penters. Nina and Paul both believe strongly in raising the level of professionalism in the general contracting industry and feel that continuing education is an important component towards that goal.

Towards that end Paul is a regular columnist for Qualified Remodeler as well as Hills Publications. Both Nina and Paul have been invited speakers at national conferences and local organizations.

London's Waterfront. Let images of Jack London surround you as you tour the Port of Oakland. Visit the Jack London Museum, a turn-of-the-century produce market (still in operation) and view FDR's restored yacht, the Potomac. Meet in front of the Overland Bar and Grill, 101 Broadway. Join us at 10 a.m., Wed., July 8 at the Latham-Ducel fountain at 13th Avenue and Martin Luther King, Jr. Way for a tour of Preservation Park. Sites include the First Unitarian Church, the Pardee Home Museum, the Greene Library, and 16 elegantly restored 19th-century homes, now used for offices, meetings and conferences. Call 238-3234 for more information about these and six other free tours.

The Alameda County Waste Management Authority presents a free **Worm Composting Workshop**, 10 a.m. to noon, Sat. July 11 (rain or shine) at the Oakland Compost Demonstration Garden, 666 Bellevue Ave. in Lakeside Park, adjacent to the Garden Center Building in Oakland. Learn how to compost yard and kitchen waste using

red wigglers and transform trash into fertilizer. Call 444-SOIL for more information.

Marsha Quick of Red Oak Realty and Karen Ward of CMG Mortgage present the free workshop **Woman to Woman: Finding the Keys to Buying Your Own Home**, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Sat. July 18 in El Cerrito. Rub shoulders with other women who want to buy a home. Learn about investigating your best neighborhoods, setting priorities, teaming with industry professionals and get an overview of the process. Become an educated consumer regarding loan/income qualifications and documentation, loan and interest rate choices and adver-

tising. Learn strategies to minimize closing costs. Educational materials included. Reservations are required. Call 718-2134 or e-mail at karenward@reloan.com.

The Alameda County Waste Management Authority presents a free **Basic Compost Workshop**, from 2 to 4 p.m., Sun. July 26 (rain or shine) at the Oakland Compost Demonstration Garden, 666 Bellevue Ave. in Lakeside Park, adjacent to the Garden Center Building in Oakland. Learn how to compost yard and kitchen waste and transform trash into fertilizer. Call 444-SOIL for more information.

See EVENTS on page 6

MARVIN GARDENS REAL ESTATE

NEW LISTING!
Open Sunday 2-5



CHARMING VICTORIAN GEM!.....\$259,000
Light & airy two bedroom, one bath home. French doors lead to private deck. Close to Elmwood shops, cafes, theatre. 2411 Oregon, Berkeley.
Terry Pedersen 527-2700, 287-8760

MAN! WHAT CLASS!.....\$145,000
Adorable 2 bedroom Mediterranean charmer. Hardwood floors with mahogany trim. Fireplace in living room, freshly painted interior. Entertain in the formal dining room or enjoy eating in the cozy breakfast nook. Large sunny yard. Large 2-car garage. Dee Plunkett 527-9111, 273-9506

OLD CHARM IN NORTH ALBANY......\$695,000
Charming six unit Mediterranean apartment building on tree lined street. Natural landscaping with central fountain. Walk to Kensington circle for your freshly baked bread or your morning coffee. Six separate meters with six separate garages. Nick Tang 527-9111, 466-5890

HOME PLUS INCOME.....\$279,000
Nice North Berkeley duplex with spacious upstairs three bedroom unit. Downstairs unit is also three bedrooms. Two-car garage, laundry room, appliances. Back yard has patio and lawn. Dee Plunkett 527-9111, 273-9506

VIEWS! VIEWS! VIEWS!.....\$495,000
JUST LISTED! Fabulous three bedroom, two bath home in special east bay neighborhood. Nicely landscaped yard front and back. MUST SEE! Open Sunday 2-4. 1508 Douglas, El Cerrito. Marilyn Rhodes 527-9111, 466-5028

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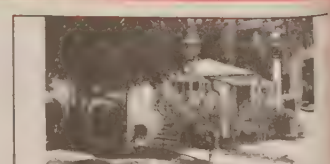
UPPER ROCKRIDGE GEM.....\$385,000
New listing! Gorgeous all level w/sunny spacious rms, formal dr, hwd flrs, wonderful neighborhood & school. Detached house. Near trans. 5828 Amy Drive. M.J. McCONVILLE 287-9583



THE GOOD LIFE.....\$347,000
Awaits you in this 4BR, 2.5BA home w/outstanding canyon vistas, wonderful deck w/gazebo, vaulted ceilings, 2 marble flrs, plank flrs, lg all purpose rm, front patio. NAHID NASSIRI 531-1670



OLD WORLD CRAFTSMAN CHARM.....\$335,000
Great Rockridge location. Lovely light-filled spacious rms enhanced by rich details such as beam ceilings, window seats, wainscoting, china cabinet. Walk to BART. M.J. McCONVILLE 287-9583



CITY CLOSE AND COUNTRY QUIET.....\$293,900
Are yours in this charming home tucked away among the trees. Spacious rooms, sunny kitchen, garage w/workshop & ample storage, private yard & much more. ARNOLD MUELLER 482-9000

THE FOLLOWING PROPERTIES EXCLUSIVELY LISTED. PLEASE CALL FOR AN APPOINTMENT.

PRIVATE LAKESIDE PROPERTY IN SAN RAMON.....\$2,500,000
Majestic oak tree setting, possible vineyard. Borders pristine Las Trampas Regional Wilderness. Working stables boarding horses. Beautiful lake stocked with fish. Approx. 100+ acres with five homes. Seller financing! Out of Williamson Act 3/2002 then 5 acre zoning. RON GATTI 837-2200

SWEEPING VIEWS.....\$2,200,000
Classic details grace this Blackhawk contemp estate of 6800 sq. ft. 7BR suites + media rm, gracious formal living areas. Sep guest house, pool & spa. Circular driveway. 4 car gar. All overlooking Country Club neighborhood. Furnishings incl. McDONALD/OLSON 837-2200

OLD DIABLO.....\$1,190,000
Charming country French estate on 64 acres is a perfect retreat in picturesque Diablo. Home has it all. An authentic English Pub, remodeled country French kitchen, master with updated bath on first floor. Two cottages - one with wheelchair possibilities. Pool, gazebo and sports court on flat lot. LEE HOLM 837-2200

BLACKHAWK HOME WITH VIEW.....\$750,000
Over 3,700 sq. ft. at end of court. Overlooks valley - watch the sun set. 4BR, 4BA, plus separate bonus rm and large fam. rm. only 8 yrs old. Tastefully done. Light and bright. CAROL TENNEY 837-2200

BEAUTIFUL ESTATE! LAFAYETTE.....\$749,000
Absolutely gorgeous work of art! Immac 5BR, 3.5BA beauty located on .49 Acres, landscaped to perfection. Must see interior. 3 fireplaces, 3 car gar, circular drive. Iron gates & pillars. RON GATTI 837-2200

LIVERMORE ESTATE PROPERTY.....\$649,000
Over 4,200 sq. ft. nestled on 5 flat acres. 3BR, 3.5BA, den, game room or au-pair with sep entrance. Corian kitchen, formal dining, lg fam rm, master BR w/view decks & marble BAs. Panoramic views from any window. 2 two car garages. ALBERT OLSON 837-2200

TOWNHOME IN THE ROCKRIDGE AREA.....\$326,000
This 3BR, 2.5BA home has all you need to enjoy its convenient and private area. With sunroom off living rm. Filtered view, high ceilings, fireplace. Two car-attached garage and move-in condition. It's a must see. MARTHA SHIN 287-9806

PIEDMONT HOME AND INCOME.....\$299,000
Live upstairs rent down. On Linda Ave. 3BR, 2BA up, 1BR down. Each has own patio. Fireplace upstairs, convenient to Piedmont and Lakeshore Aves. NAHID NASSIRI 531-1670

PEAK OPPORTUNITY.....\$219,000
All that's needed are cosmetic touches and you'll have a wonderful townhome in Sequoyah Heights with filtered view. 3BR, 2.5BA, pool and clubhouse area. ELAINE JONES 547-5715

WONDERFUL DUPLEX.....\$210,000
Near Rockridge shops and BART. Loads of character and charm with fireplace and hardwood floors. Great value for investor or owner occupant. M.J. McCONVILLE 287-9583

MOVE IN AND ENJOY.....\$191,000
This charming 1910 home with original built-ins, new foundation, new electric, new carpet and paint! Formal dining, kitchen with nook, basement rumpus, garage. PATRICIA BENNETT 482-9000

SEE THE POTENTIAL.....\$189,000
In this 2BR, 1BA w/large family rm situated in established San Leandro neighborhood. Large yard, detached garage and parking for boat. Needs loving attention. SHERDELLA SIMS 287-9586

RARE AND GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY.....\$175,000
Scarce as hen's teeth. Clean and updated duplex located in San Leandro North area. Long-term tenants. Annual gross \$15,120. Upgraded electric, plumbing, etc. EARLE SHENK 287-9590

INCREDIBLE VALUE FOR STARTERS.....\$169,000
Upper Laurel - Just add your own personal touch to this light and spacious starter. Cozy fireplace, large kitchen and master suite - just a few of the amenities. ROSEMARY GREENE 635-9842

A HOME TO HELP YOU PROSPER.....\$165,000
This 3+BR family home has it all! The full basement has a BA and kitchenette and is great for extended family or home work. Good area and priced right. Open Sun. 2-4:30, 1093 65th St. JODY EDMONSON 287-9582

CHARMING COTTAGE.....\$148,000
Large garden w/outside building. Ideal for artist, gardener or playhouse! Newer kitchen & bath. 2BR, 1BA. Located on corner w/white picket fence. CHARLENE CLAYBAUGH 287-9583

OAKLAND VIEW HOME FOR UNDER \$130K!.....\$128,500
In a nice neighborhood above MacArthur, near Mills College, the cute 2BR has lots of light, hardwood floors, central heat, basement storage. Good condition! JIM SCHUBERT 482-9000

JUST LISTED - PRICED TO SELL!.....\$129,000
Spacious living room, grand dining room, 2BR each with h/w. Walk to Piedmont Avenue and Pill Hill. Garages generate income. hardwood floors. PATRICIA BENNETT 482-9000

LOCATION AND QUALITY FOR LESS.....\$118,000
Super-clean 2-level townhouse with lovely private garden and views from upper rooms. Quiet end unit in newer complex w/ security gates, parking. Open Sun. 2-4:30, 3822 39th Ave. #2. RICHARD KEELING 531-1150

TRY A LITTLE TENDERNESS.....\$110,000
On the classic style home in an area close to everything. 3BR w/ full basement and good yard. Ideal for first time buyer and motivated. JODY EDMONSON 287-9582

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Earlier this year, LaSalle Properties of Montclair, an innovator in the field of home purchase services, built its own Web site at www.lasalleprop.com. The company has continued to upgrade and expand the site's capabilities to provide better services for buyers and sellers in Montclair, Piedmont and Berkeley. "Other real estate offices have taken advantage of the Internet," said Phil Weingrow, sales manager and co-owner of LaSalle Properties. "However, on our site, we offer several specific advantages which make it unique." Some of these features include a direct link through e-mail to every broker in the office. Clients See WEBSITE on page 8

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Mark Goode

- Victorian 4 Plex - Alameda.....Only \$408,000**
Victorian Charm in this huge 2BD/2BA owners unit, large deck. Light bright three income producing units downstairs. Large lot, excellent deal.
- Mediterranean 3 Bed Home.....Only \$279,000**
3 Bedroom, wood floors throughout, full basement, 3-car garage, big recreation room/den downstairs leading to landscaped backyard with hot tub.

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◆ INDICATES HOMES BEING HELD OPEN SUNDAY

Oakland / Piedmont

- VIEW AND CHARACTER!.....\$419,000**
Contemporary design at its best for this 3BD/2BA home. Cathedral ceiling, high windows, etc.
Nancy Hinkley 644-5440
- ROCKRIDGE BUNGALOW!.....\$324,950**
Good solid 3BD home with big basement & 2-car garage. Walk to everything!
Tom Modic 849-3711, 549-0424
- BAY VIEW PLUS.....\$320,000**
Gleaming condition! 3 large bdrms, incl. master suite, 2.5BA, private yard.
D.A. Hammond 869-4219, 339-9290
- CLASSY TRADITIONAL.....\$318,500**
3BD/2+BA in move-in condition. Exceptionally maintained, w/serene patio & garden.
Gene Boomer 869-4202, 339-9290
- ENCHANTED A-FRAME.....\$315,000**
Lose your heart to this 3BD/2BA home. Level yard, wood int., close to everything & affordable.
Cheryl St. Clair 845-0211

NEW LISTING.....\$310,000
Light filled, spacious 3BD/2BA Rockridge bungalow, back yard garden & deck, hardwood floors.
Norine Shima 845-0200

ADAMS POINT RETREAT.....\$270,000
Stunning craftsman, 3BD/2 full BA, hwd flrs, formal dining, frpl, gourmet kit, large fam rm, over 1,800 sq. ft.
Rhonda Drakeford 273-9257

GRAND TRIPLEX!.....\$239,000
Spacious units. Hwd flrs, ideal for owner occupy. Tranquil setting.
Barry Klein/Cindy Fleming 428-0900

◆ ROCKRIDGE VICTORIAN \$229,000
Charming 2BD/1BA w/original details, large lot, full of potential & ready for restoration. Open Sun 2-4:30. 5168 Shafter, Oakland.
Steve Collins 464-4427, 849-3711

LAUREL DISTRICT FIXER.....\$199,000
Huge open spaces, back studio, great room with sleeping loft above. Offstreet parking. Probate.
Jim Forquer 869-4263, 339-9290

OAKLAND 4-PLEX.....\$189,000
Spacious updated 1BD units. Strong rental area separately metered. Close to schools.
Barry Klein/Cindy Fleming 428-0900

ROOMY TRADITIONAL.....\$185,000
4BD/2BA, large yard, convenient location attractive hwd flrs, 2-car garage.
Barry Klein/Cindy Fleming 428-0900

ABSOLUTELY CHARMING!.....\$162,900
New listing! 2+BD artist's craftsman bungalow! Cook's kitchen, office/BD, studio/garage. Lovely garden & many extras!
Carol Jakobson 849-3711, 527-3494

GOURMET GHETTO CONDO.....\$145,000
Spic and span 1BD/1BA condo w/sunny deck. Quiet street, close to campus. Barbara Reynolds 845-0200

OLD WORLD CHARM & BONUS.....\$134,900
North Oakland charmer. 2 spacious bedrooms, formal dining rm, bonus storage space. Fireplace & laundry rm. Call.....
Diane C. 286-7502, 834-2010

SAN LEANDRO

RESTORED NEOCLASSICAL.....\$324,900
4BD/1.5BA complete w/white picket fence & wisteria covered arbor on 1/4 acre lot.
Candace Benny 428-0900

REAL ESTATE MAILBOX

Editor:

If Blanche Evans cannot find "the benefit of Prop 13" (Prop 13 winners and losers, June 25-26) perhaps she should open her eyes. Proposition 13 prevents people from being taxed out of their homes, an effect that most of us consider beneficial.

Under Proposition 13 your property taxes are based on the price you paid for your home, which is a fairer measure of your ability to pay those taxes than the current assessed value of your home. Previously, when property values and assessments rose more rapidly than personal incomes, many were forced to sell their homes because they could no longer afford to pay their rapidly increasing property taxes.

Property values are beginning to rise again in California, but homeowners will not gain from that rise until they sell their homes. If the homeowners can wait, the taxman can wait.

Gene Ledbetter

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531-7000

OPEN SUNDAY 2:00 - 4:30 P.M.

321 CREIGHTON WAY.....\$739,000
Best view in town! New listing! Soaring ceiling, granite, hardwood, two fireplaces. Terrific kitchen and much more!
Carrie Craig ext. 244

3451 GUIDO.....\$279,000
Spanish charms in great Redwood Heights neighborhood. 3BD, cul-de-sac, large yard, walk to park. Katie Meadow ext. 288

SHOWN BY APPOINTMENT

BEST PRICE/MOST LAND.....\$665,000
Almost 3 acres in Hillcrest Estates plus 3BD/2BA house with updated kitchen. Bay view and privacy plus pool and separate building for office or exercise. Noll Davis 531-9536

THREE YEAR OLD HOME.....\$339,000
Nearly 3000 sq ft. 4+BD, 3.5BA, family room, 3 fireplaces, gourmet kitchen. SF view, only \$180 sq ft! Can't be beat. Must see! Frank Hennefer 654-6461

MEDITERRANEAN BEAUTY WITH SF VIEW.....\$460,000
On Bridgeview in Upper Oakmore. Turret, copper hooded fireplace, cathedral redwood ceiling, and random plank floors, formal dining room, 3BD, 2BA. Noll Davis 531-9536

3 UNITS IN GLENVIEW.....\$369,000
2 Spacious 2BD units. Plus rooms, charm. Detached sunny 1BD garden cottage. Great location. Nancy or Chris ext. 254

DELIGHTFUL, REMODEL.....\$206,000
Lovely 2BD/2BA with a contemporary flair. New kitchen and master bath, vaulted ceiling. Well designed office space, private deck/yard. Nancy Novick ext. 254

STUDENT HOUSING.....\$165,000
Two bedrooms, hardwood floors, cute and good condition. Affordable in a good neighborhood. Stan Hammond 839-5846

SKYLINE DOWN SLOPE (7000 BLOCK).....\$89,000
#24 Skyline Blvd. Down slope in area of new homes. Preliminary house plans and survey. Gerry Cheney ext. 287

1451 LEIMERT BLVD., OAKLAND

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CLEAN, CHARMING LIVE/WORK.....\$179,000
w/separate workspace, roll-up door, gated lot, extra storage, EZ commute. Public transportation/freeway.
Jacqueline Wagner 524-2526

BERKELEY BARGAIN.....\$138,000
Bungalow near Ashby BART. LR w/frpl, formal dining, eat-in kitchen.
Edwina Taylor 845-0200

West County

3 LOTS, 2 HOMES, 1 PRICE.....\$649,500
Kensington country setting, 4+BD/4BA house plus sep. 1BD/1BA apt. over gar. (rents for \$1,200). Nr Tilden. Julie Nachtwey, Margo Seners 845-0211

BEAUTY ON CUL-DE-SAC.....\$405,000
Lovely home w/hdwd flrs, new kit, new master BA, bit-in BBQ, ceiling fans, decks, views & more!
Jaime Roberts 527-9800

UNIQUE CUSTOM BEAUTY.....\$319,000
El Sobrante private country locale. 2,600 sq. ft. w/in-law. Also 600 sq. ft. bonus. Exceptional quality & design, sunroom.
Kathleen 758-5657

VIEW WILDCAT CANYON.....\$285,000
Super large 4BD/3BA home in Richmond View w/bonus rm, gourmet kitchen. Over 2,000 sq. ft.
Clara Shelton 527-9800

ABSOLUTELY GORGEOUS.....\$269,000
4BD/2BA 2,254 sq. ft., deck, pvt, 10 min to Orinda, super nice, bright & airy, spacious, updated, frpl
Kathleen 758-8010

WHY PAY RENT.....\$149,000
You could own this charming, pristine 2BD/1BA, gar, grt yard, close to shopping. Must see. Luisa Castillo 644-5200

ARTIST RETREAT.....\$139,000
Large 1BD/1BA in Richmond View. SF city & Bay views. Deck, new roof, clear terms.
Kathleen 758-5657

UNUSUAL QUASI-DUPLEX
Kensington prime location! View! 3BD/2.5BA, 2 LR's, 2 kit, 3 frpl, private patio, garage, level-in. Move-in condition.
Chris Karfitz 526-5143, 524-9655

LOTS FOR SALE

CLAREMONT LOT!.....\$209,000
New price! One of the last 10 lots left. Some view, exceptional location.
Miriam Wilson 845-0211

ALTA CLAREMONT LOT.....\$102,500
Lot w/pano-view of Marin and bridges, soils report, plans. Desirable location.
Candice 528-9284
Warwick 530-7319, 845-0200

Events

Continued from page 4

Oakland's One-Stop Capital Shop (OSCS), 519 17th St. in Oakland, provides a series of free and low-cost small-business developmental workshops available to the public on an ongoing basis. Classes include Goal Setting, Credit CPR, Legal Aspects of Small Business, Marketing and Advertising and Understanding Business Statements. Call 273-6000 to reserve space or to receive information about other seminars.

Consumer Credit Counseling Service, a nonprofit community service organization in Oakland has a series of free workshops. Registration is mandatory. For more information call (800) 501-SAVE

Join University of California pathologist Dr. Robert Raabe from 9 a.m. to noon the first Sat. of every month for a free Sick Plant Clinic at the UC Botanical Gardens, 200

Centennial Dr. in Berkeley. Drop in with a piece of a sick or a dying plant and Dr. Raabe will diagnose the problem. Call 643-2755 or garden @uclink4.berkeley.edu for more information.

Russell Doi of the Mortgage Network hosts free First Time Homebuyer Seminar on an ongoing basis. Learn about the many first-time homebuyer programs available today. Find out just how much home you can afford to buy. Receive a free booklet that will help you prepare for the biggest investment you may ever make. Call 526-6554 to make reservations.

The Orchid Society of California meets at 7:30 p.m. on the third Monday of each month at the Lake Merritt Garden Center, 666 Bellevue Ave., Oakland. Learn about orchids and their care. Purchase orchid plants at the members' plant sale before the meeting. Orchid lecturers share their knowledge and provide plants for a raffle. Join the camaraderie and learn about the

beautiful world of orchids. Call 531-1210 for more information.

The Golden Gate Cymbidium Society meets at 7:30 p.m. on the fourth Wed. of each month at the Lake Merritt Garden Center, 666 Bellevue Ave., Oakland. A plant

sale is featured before the meeting affording you the opportunity to purchase quality cymbidiums. These meetings feature expert growers from around world with their slides and valuable tips for growing cymbidiums. Attend this meeting and learn how to grow and bloom these beautiful plants. Call 531-1210 for more information.

For inclusion in Events, send information to Dennis Evanovsky, Real Estate Editor, Hills Newspapers, 5707 Redwood Rd., Oakland, 94619. Phone: 339-4047, Fax: 339-4066. Information must be received one week prior to publication.



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All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents, or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.

REALTY by TOM HOLSTLAW

Oh you wouldn't like this one The Commission is too low.

RIGHT PROPERTY • RIGHT PRICE • RIGHT HERE

FRESH ON THE MARKET:

- 309 Harborlight Rd. Large So. Shore home Steps to beach. 4 bd, 3 ba, Fam rm. \$379,950
- 2964 Southwood Dr. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, family room. Fernside District. \$469,000.
- 965 Shorepoint Ct. #304. Top floor location. \$92,000
- 1500 Alameda Ave. #E. 2 BD, 2 BA. PRICE REDUCED!! \$146,900

For additional information on these or other properties contact

TOM HOLSTLAW

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ASKING: \$240,000

AFFORDABLE MONTCLAIR CONTEMPORARY
4BD/2.5BA, level side yard. Needs some cosmetics. MAY BE YOUR LAST CHANCE!
ONLY: \$299,000

- OAKMORE CONTEMPORARY, 1960 Oak View Dr. SOLD! Bay view 3BD/2BA, rumpus with wet bar, 2 fireplaces. LIST PRICE: \$339,200
- OAKLAND - OAK KNOLL AREA, well maintained starter with level yard 3BD/1BA, Hills view from dining room. ASKING \$212,000
- MAXWELL PARK, 2486 Cole St. SOLD! 2BD/1BA plus bonus room, great yard with view of the hills. LIST PRICE: \$156,000
- OAKLAND - 8024 Earl St. - PENDING! 2BD/1BA, large rear yard. Garage converted to family room. LIST PRICE: \$153,000

Call Jackie or Georgia
For More Details:
(510) 433-9996
or (510) 569-3499
e-mail: GRres@aol.com
listinglink.com/grichardson

Jackie Carter
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| Oakland | San Leandro |
|---|---|
| \$125,000 3844 MAYBELLE. A large 2 BD, 1 1/2 BA condo in a quiet neighborhood above MacArthur. Located in a small complex with fireplace and covered parking. Russ Grant 814-4713 | \$165,000 2329 N. MARINA BLVD. Corner lot. Single level 3 bedroom. Ranch style home. Call Steve Cressy 814-4818 |
| \$130,000 2633 HAROLD. REDUCED PRICE. Well-kept 2 BD, 1 BA home in the Diamond District. Formal dining, large bright kitchen, separate large lot with lemon trees & a detached 1-car garage. To be sold "as is." Tere Lee 521-3352 | \$398,000 15127 FLYING MIST RD. Beautiful bedroom, 4 bath home with formal dining room, family room, 2 terraces, a swimming pool. Wonderful corner lot with over 2 car garage. Lorraine Ingester 814-4714 |
| \$138,000 2824 ATWELL. Single-level bungalow with 2 BD, hardwood floors & 2-car attached garage. Call Tom Young 814-4841 | \$182,000 14016 OUTRIGGER DR. Project self! 2 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath, contemporary. Two garage parking spaces. Call Tere Lee 521-3352 |
| \$139,500 6470 MacARTHUR. Two townhouse-style units in good condition! Both units are 2 BD, 1 BA. Close to Mills College. Kathy Hirsch 814-4706 | \$185,500 14315 SEAGATE. immaculate 2 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath, single level, with upgrades. Call Tere Lee 521-3352 |
| \$189,000 912 E. 15TH. Two - 1 bedroom, 1 bath, unit. Penthouse style home with unit! Lots of parking and some work. Probate sale. Call Turner 814-4828 | \$195,000 13402 AURORA DR. Just built! Mulligan Gardens. 3 bedroom, 1 1/4 bath home located in a quiet neighborhood. Call Steve Cressy 814-4818 |
| \$239,500 3245 FLORIDA. A 3 bedroom, 2 bath Laurel District home with hardwood floors, formal dining room, large eat-in kitchen with tile floor, basement room, patio room with fireplace and garage! Russ Grant 814-4713 | \$209,500 25840 SCRIPPS ST. Just built! Southgate area. Four bedroom, 2 bath unit. Style home in move-in condition. Brand new carpeting, fresh interior paint, new shower vanity in master suite, large rear yard. Steve Cressy 814-4818 |
| \$245,000 4949 CORONADO. A 2-unit fixer-upper in a great location! Both units are 2 BD 1 BA. To be sold "as is." Don Gutierrez 814-4884 | Fremont |
| \$289,900 3460 REVERE. PRICED REDUCED! You can't see it! Full Bay Area view, 3-level colonial style home with office. Call Margaret Lombas 521-7193 | Montclair |
| \$485,000 6415 CHELTON. English country describes this lovely 3 bedroom home nestled in mature gardens. Call Margaret Lombas 521-7193 | San Pablo |
| \$289,900 3460 REVERE. PRICED REDUCED! You can't see it! Full Bay Area view, 3-level colonial style home with office. Call Margaret Lombas 521-7193 | Pleasanton |
| \$139,500 921 CHANNING WAY. Charming single-level 1 bedroom, 1 bath bungalow with hardwood floors, great kitchen, contemporary decor, great yard, garage and walk-in pantry. Call Aquila 814-4826 | \$310,000 7882 OAK CREEK DR. Split level 3 bedroom, 2 bath home with a large front yard and a 2 car garage. Call Tere Lee 521-3352 |
| \$460,000 1910 SAN ANTONIO. Stunning 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath home with hardwood floors, granite countertops, master suite with walk-in closet, private level. Call Tere Lee 521-3352 | \$460,000 2761 SANDERLING RD. Beautiful 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath home with hardwood floors, granite countertops, master suite with walk-in closet, private level. Call Tere Lee 521-3352 |

AREA HOME SALES

ALAMEDA
 4400 St. - \$137,500
 4400 Ballena Blvd. - \$340,000
 4400 Broadway - \$249,000
 4400 Calhoun St. - \$257,500
 4400 Caroline St. - \$298,000
 4400 Cedar St. - \$335,000
 4400 Central Ave. - \$276,000
 4400 Clapper Dr. - \$369,000
 4400 Edison Ct. - \$260,000
 4400 Euclid Ave. - \$84,000
 4400 Euclid Ave. - \$221,000
 4400 Gibbons Dr. - \$465,000
 4400 Lincoln Ave. - \$329,000
 4400 Lincoln Ave. - \$285,000
 4400 Lincoln Ave. - \$198,000
 4400 Mayama Cir. - \$477,000
 4400 Oak St. - \$230,000
 4400 Pacific Ave. - \$315,000
 4400 Radondo Ct. - \$378,500
 4400 Sea View Pk. - \$640,000
 4400 Shorepoint #103 - \$130,000
 4400 St. Ann's Ave. - \$320,000
 4400 St. Ann's Ave. - \$205,000

BERKELEY
 952 Arlington Ave. - \$537,500
 1335 Carrington St. - \$169,000
 521 Cragmont Ave. - \$275,000
 1616 Delaware St. - \$361,500
 2920 Fulton St. - \$511,000
 1155 Glen Ave. - \$490,000
 2121 Oregon St. - \$261,000
 1235 Parker St. - \$190,000
 715 Santa Barbara Rd. - \$255,000
 2436 Spaulding Ave. - \$302,000
 1883 Tacoma Ave. - \$411,000
EL CERRITO
 5901 Alta Punta - \$205,000
 2530 Carquinez Ave. - \$291,000
 1909 Downey Pl. - \$275,000
 853 Elm St. - \$215,000
 201 Ramona Ave. - \$286,000
 1 Ridgeway Ln - \$375,000
 1365 Rifle Range Rd. - \$535,000
 6815 Tahoe Pl. - \$230,000
 414 Village Dr. - \$230,000
EL SOBRANTE
 22 Allen Ln - \$250,000
 5566 Deer Run Dr. - \$219,000
 4221 Harmon Rd. - \$140,000
 2744 May Rd. - \$140,000
 7050 North Rancho - \$162,000
 2428 Rancho Rd. - \$335,000
EMERYVILLE
 6363 Christie #2211 - \$150,000

6363 Christie #2527 - \$236,000
 5 Commodore #B302 - \$140,000
KENSINGTON
 76 Arlington Ave. - \$443,000
 65 Highgate Rd. - \$515,000
 24 Highland Blvd. - \$281,500
 135 York Ave. - \$415,000
OAKLAND
 2320 107th Ave. - \$88,000
 2421 107th Ave. - \$88,000
 1012 32nd St. - \$195,000
 4100 39th Ave. - \$175,000
 953 42nd St. - \$82,000
 453 62nd St. - \$341,000
 2706 68th Ave. - \$150,000
 3321 68th Ave. - \$84,000
 1448 94th Ave. - \$100,000
 2060 96th Ave. - \$123,500
 1760 Arrowhead - \$180,000
 571 Athol Ave. - \$235,000
 3730 Atlas Ave. - \$263,000
 1318 Bates Rd. - \$304,000
 5249 Belvedere St. - \$149,000
 3037 Blossom St. - \$135,000
 3215 Boston Ave. - \$100,000
 12060 B'way Ter. - \$450,000
 6758 B'way Ter. - \$240,000
 4039 Brookdale - \$144,500
 32 Camellia Pl. - \$313,000
 673 Capistrano Dr. - \$89,500
 2658 Cherokee Ave. - \$139,000
 7563 Cir. Hill Dr. - \$170,000
 331 Clifton St. - \$262,000
 2323 Coloma St. - \$154,000
 10531 Creekside Cir. - \$110,000
 9405 D St. - \$135,000
 840 East 28th St. - \$206,500
 1366 El Centro Ave. - \$277,000
 320 Elysian Fields Dr. - \$300,000
 9221 Empire Rd. - \$96,000
 1515 Excelsior Ave. - \$207,000
 1551 Excelsior Ave. - \$206,000
 1661 Excelsior Ave. - \$255,000
 3335 Florida St. - \$179,000
 72 Glen Ave. - \$290,000
 3606 Glen Park Rd. - \$148,000
 940 Glendome Cir. - \$275,000
 2 Gravatt Dr. - \$721,000
 322 Hanover #402 - \$150,000
 1004 Harvard Rd. - \$365,000
 1451 Havenscourt - \$118,000

1200 Hollywood Ave. - \$450,000
 3939 Huntington St. - \$185,000
 4066 Huntington St. - \$235,000
 2841 Kingsland Ave. - \$129,000
 4043 Lakeshore Ave. - \$335,000
 4050 Laurel Ave. - \$265,000
 5331 Lawton Ave. - \$295,000
 1047 Leo Wy. - \$275,000
 4000 Maple Ave. - \$252,000
 4000 Maybelle Ave. - \$229,000
 2306 Maywood Ave. - \$113,000
 2035 Melvin Rd. - \$352,500
 5216 Miles Ave. - \$335,000
 3351 Monterey Blvd. - \$285,000
 5704 Moraga Ave. - \$330,000
 654 Mountain Blvd. - \$602,000
 9620 Olive St. - \$119,000
 245 Perkins St. #45 - \$85,000
 3238 Prentiss St. - \$83,000
 93 Rishell Dr. - \$280,000
 1 Rockridge Pl. - \$768,000
 6812 Saroni Dr. - \$359,000
 27 Schooner Hill - \$385,000
 4701 Scotia Ave. - \$255,000
 8278 Skyline Cir. - \$468,000
 8132 Sterling Dr. - \$145,000
 7028 Thornhill Dr. - \$330,000
 1706 Treble Glen - \$465,000
 680 Trestle Glen - \$337,000
 591 Valle Vista Ave. - \$349,500
 4320 Virginia Ave. - \$245,000
 10200 Voltaire Ave. - \$116,000
 3127 Ward Ln - \$137,500
 7 Wood Ct. - \$805,000
 5960 Zinn Dr. - \$378,500
PIEDMONT
 265 Sandringham Rd. - \$650,000
 297 St. James Dr. - \$730,000
 6238 Swainland Rd. - \$580,000
RICHMOND
 930 24th St. - \$87,500

229 25th St. - \$100,000
 648 36th St. - \$120,000
 462 43rd St. - \$149,000
 860 7th St. - \$93,000
 25 Breakers Blvd. - \$247,000
 1200 Brickyard #110 - \$185,000
 1201 Brickyard #205 - \$168,000
 2014 Carlson Blvd. - \$111,000
 3932 Center Ave. - \$124,000
 501 Cliffside Ct. - \$837,500
 5322 Fallon Ave. - \$110,000
 7 Harrison Ct. - \$218,000
 2512 Highgate Dr. - \$207,000
 769 Humboldt St. - \$180,000
 3038 Moran Ave. - \$112,000
 3046 Moyers Rd. - \$105,000
 96 Murdock St. - \$106,000
 228 Park Ln - \$92,500
 641 Stege Ave. - \$112,000
 3763 Stone Gl - \$105,500
 110 Vista Heights Rd. - \$195,000
 3109 Whitecliff Ct. - \$178,000
SAN LEANDRO
 1523 137th Ave. - \$179,500
 1506 139th Ave. - \$176,000
 15630 Atlantus Ave. - \$333,000
 373 Bellevue Dr. - \$165,000
 2302 Belvedere Ave. - \$119,000
 1062 Beldmin Ave. - \$215,000
 117 Breed Ave. - \$139,000
 748 Castro St. - \$146,000
 16578 Cowell St. - \$225,000
 15615 Cranbrook St. - \$190,000
 400 Davis St. #113 - \$128,000
 14025 Doolittle Dr. - \$122,000
 1274 Esser Ave. - \$185,000
 1460 Fairmont Dr. - \$135,000
 2366 Fairway Dr. - \$143,000
 615 Haas Ave. - \$250,000
 494 Juana Ave. - \$165,000
 14457 Kings Ct. - \$140,500

1121 Midway Ave. - \$180,000
 178 Pontiac St. - \$137,000
 2455 Ranspot Dr. - \$241,000
 2232 Regatta Wy - \$280,000
 1733 Russ Ave. - \$191,000
 1467 Sayre St. - \$190,000
 16523 Toledo St. - \$264,000
 13972 Velarde Dr. - \$265,000
 478 Violet St. - \$125,000
 14534 Wake Ave. - \$150,000
 475 W. Estudillo Ave. - \$200,000
SAN LORENZO
 15824 Connolly Ave. - \$143,000
 15868 Corte Francesa - \$190,000
 17040 Via Alamitos - \$90,000
 16029 Via Cordoba - \$205,000
 1472 Via Hermana - \$197,000
 1947 Via Rancho - \$178,000
 18000 Via Toledo - \$199,000

SALES STATS BY CITY
ALAMEDA
 TOTAL SALES: 22
 LOWEST PRICE: \$ 84,000
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$640,000
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$299,750
ALBANY
 TOTAL SALES: 7
 LOWEST PRICE: \$105,000
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$590,000
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$278,714
BERKELEY
 TOTAL SALES: 11
 LOWEST PRICE: \$169,000
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$537,500
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$342,090
EL CERRITO
 TOTAL SALES: 9
 LOWEST PRICE: \$205,000
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$535,000
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$293,555
EL SOBRANTE
 TOTAL SALES: 6
 LOWEST PRICE: \$140,000
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$335,000
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$207,666
EMERYVILLE
 TOTAL SALES: 3
 LOWEST PRICE: \$140,000
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$236,000
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$175,333
KENSINGTON
 TOTAL SALES: 4
 LOWEST PRICE: \$281,500
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$515,000
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$413,625
OAKLAND
 TOTAL SALES: 8
 LOWEST PRICE: \$ 82,000
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$805,000
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$250,910
PIEDMONT
 TOTAL SALES: 3
 LOWEST PRICE: \$580,000
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$730,000
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$171,434
RICHMOND
 TOTAL SALES: 23
 LOWEST PRICE: \$87,500
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$837,500
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$171,434
SAN LEANDRO
 TOTAL SALES: 29
 LOWEST PRICE: \$119,000
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$333,000
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$185,482
SAN LORENZO
 TOTAL SALES: 7
 LOWEST PRICE: \$90,000
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$205,000
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$171,714

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OAKLAND
 PRICE REDUCED! HOME WITH VIEW OF THE BAY ON ITS OWN PRIVATE DRIVE. Large living, dining & family rooms, 4 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, 2,300 sq. ft. A must see! \$139,000. Debbie Budd, 748-1806.
MOUNTAIN This lot is on an improved road at the south end of Florence. Call Don Jasky, 748-1798.
TWO UNITS Separately metered, a 2 bedroom and a 1 bedroom. Call Fred Hobbs, 748-1794.
2ND FLOOR CORNER CONDO UNIT Two bedrooms, 1 1/2 baths, close to UC Berkeley. Call & carry. Call Sharon Greene, 523-9421.
HOUSE \$289,000. Moon Tam, 747-1620.
MODERN USED BUILDING Store front with two 3 bedroom units. Full basement and separate entrance. Moon Tam, 747-1620.
COMPLEX BY MILLS COLLEGE Two bedrooms, 1 bath each, 2-car garage, low-maintenance yard. By appointment only. Eddie Gray, 748-1755.
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 Patsy Chan 747-1630
 Thomas C. Yu 748-1764
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SAN LEANDRO
 RANCH STYLE HOME IN MULFORD GARDENS. Three bedrooms, 1 bath. \$194,000. Ron Bang 748-1766.
VERY NICE CONDO Three bedrooms, 2 baths, newly painted, large rooms with lots of storage. Beamed ceiling in living room and new carpet, new tile in kitchen and all appliances stay, new hardwood floors in dining area & kitchen. Covered carport PLUS extra parking space. Mary Carder, 748-1792.
HAYWARD
 MODERN CALIFORNIA RANCH-STYLE HOME. In immaculate condition with beautiful hardwood and new carpet. Kitchen and both baths recently updated, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, close to Garin Regional Park. Debra Gorman, 769-9109.
CASTRO VALLEY
 COMMERCIAL STRIP. 2520 square feet of space, single-level. Don Lindsey, 748-1798.

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 Elegantly set off the street with a gated entry, this gracious home is wonderfully designed with the style and comfort of a Mediterranean villa.
 • Gorgeous formal living and dining
 • A well-designed kitchen - level out through French doors to a private garden patio
 • There are four spacious bedrooms upstairs including a very attractive master suite
 • Adjacent to the bedrooms is a private, separate office
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Offered for \$839,000
 Donald Grubb Jr.
 (510) 339-0400 Ext. 210
The GRUBB Co.
 REALTORS
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245 ESTATES DR. - PIEDMONT \$1,050,000
 A spectacular Contemporary home. High ceilings, dramatic spaces, a luxurious master suite, gorgeous views of the San Francisco Bay and beyond. Outdoor spa. ANIAN TUNNEY
124 WALDO AVE. - PIEDMONT \$839,000
 NEW LISTING! Elegantly set off the street with a gated entry. Wonderfully designed with the style and comfort of a Mediterranean villa. Gorgeous formal living & dining, 4 bedrooms upstairs. DONALD GRUBB JR.
4384 REDWOOD ROAD NEW PRICE \$399,000
 9 year old Contemporary with views from most rooms. 4+ bedrooms/2+ baths, kitchen/family room, decks and 2-car garage. Close to all conveniences. ANGELA WEI GRUBB

37 WINDWARD HILL \$422,000
 Enjoy resort living year round. Attractive Hiller Highlands 3 bdrms/2 bath townhouse with loft and panoramic Bay views plus Highlands Country Club Membership. Many custom upgrades. SUSANNE PAUL
6281 VALLEY VIEW RD. - MONTCLAIR \$305,000
 Enjoy the ultimate in privacy in the Contemporary 3 bedroom/2 bath home. A pair w/sep. entrance. Just minutes from The Village and surrounded by lush, green trees. MAVIS DELACROIX

www.grubbco.com **339-0400**

SMART
MONEY

LEILA GOUGH

Here is a quick money question: What do an ATM and a 401(k) plan have in common? Technically, nothing. But based on some investors' usage, their 401(k)s may be more like a cash machine than a nest egg. If you are trying to get the most out of your plan you can start by using it for its intended purpose: retirement savings.

Once you know what you want from your 401(k), try using these five easy steps as part of your savings strategy:

Step 1: Give it your all. To make the most of your 401(k)'s growth potential, you need to give the most you can in your regular contributions. Find out the maximum annual contribution allowed

401(k): cash machine or nest egg?

under your company's plan.

Also remember that your employer probably has a limited matching contribution program that helps further pad your account. For instance, many companies offer anywhere from 50 cents to \$1 for every dollar you contribute, up to a specified limit.

Step 2: Spread the wealth. Many financial experts suggest you should not place your 401(k)'s fortunes on only one investment. Younger investors with smaller contributions should spread the money among three of your plan's investment choices.

As your income and contribution levels grow, you can further diversify your investments to further reduce your account's overall risk and expand the number of growth opportunities.

Step 3: Stay aggressive. Some investors often inhibit growth potential by choosing only conservative investments instead of those investments that offer greater return potential. Even a 1 percent

difference in your investment's annual returns can make a big difference over the long term.

For example, let us say you and your company combine to contribute \$2,400 annually to your 401(k) for the next 30 years. If you investments earn 7 percent annually, your account would grow to about \$242,575. However, if your investments earned 8 percent annually—just 1 percent more—your account would grow to about \$293,630 (a near \$51,000 difference or a 21 percent increase!).

This is just an example and does not reflect specific investments or future contribution increases, but it does show the growth potential you could be denying your account.

Step 4: Do an annual check up. Review your 401(k)'s investment each year to make sure they still match your objectives. While many plans allow you to switch your investments as often as daily, avoid the temptation.

Make sure you only move out of investments because of long-term

fundamental problems rather than because the investment had a down day or week.

Step 5: Do not touch the money. Think of your 401(k) contributions the same way you think of your house or car payments; you are paying off something important. In this case, the payoff is your retirement.

Once you have placed money into your account, leave it alone. In doing so, you allow your money the potential to compound every year without the interruption of withdrawals that can hinder your account's growth.

Just as you would not stop paying your bills for the things you need in life now, make sure you do not forget to pay your 401(k) for the retirement you would like later on.

Leila Gough is an Associate Vice President with A. G. Edwards, Inc. in Oakland. She can be reached at 273-8840. Check out A. G. Edwards Web page at www.agedwards.com.

'Woman to woman'

Marsha Quick of Red Oak Realty and Karen Ward of CMG Mortgage present the free workshop *Woman to Woman: Finding the Keys to Buying Your Home*, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. July 18 in El Cerrito. Call 2134 to learn more.

ing the Keys to Buying Your Home, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. July 18 in El Cerrito. Call 2134 to learn more.

Website

Continued from page 5

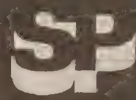
can communicate any time with their broker when questions arise about a specific property.

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ment appears on the screen. Graphic information and location maps offer information to the client.

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For more information, contact Phil Weingrow at LaSalle Realty at 339-8900.



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YOUR WEEKEND GUIDE OPEN HOMES

OAKLAND ***OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30***

6174 MAZUELA DR., Montclair. 5/4 Beautiful, trad-styled new construction. \$895,000
SF vus, lrg kit/fam rm w/frp/c, 3-car gar. Pacific Union Patricia Scott 339-6460

6095 FAIRLANE, Montclair. Custom-built home w/good natural light. \$785,000
Stors include 3 master suites, 4.5 ba total. Gourmet kitchen w/island, hwdw floors. Coldwell Banker Ruby Ng/Karen Lun 339-1174

213 CREIGHTON WY., New listing! Best view in tw! hwdw, 2 frplcs, high ceiling, granite, terrific kit & more! Wells & Bennett 531-7000, Carrie Craig X 244

950 MOUNTAIN BLVD., Montclair. 4/3 Stunning, new w/versatile floor plan. \$725,000
Priv & ll, lrg kit/hook/fam rm, sunkn LR & cyd. Pacific Union David Ichikawa 339-6460

6360 CONTRA COSTA RD., Upper Rockridge. 4/4 Gorgeous home! \$679,000
2 master suites. LaSalle Properties, Victor Fierro 339-8900

7400 SKYLINE, Custom Elegance. Fabulous for entertaining! Formal liv & din. Lg kit w/fam rm, office, romantic & opulent master, much much more. Coldwell Banker, Dell M. Orr 339-1174

12065 BROADWAY TERR., Montclair. Just Listed! 4/3 newly built, lg lot. \$650,000
Klt/fm rm combo, marble counters, 6-burner stove, master suite w/gas fireplace, marble BR, trees & view Berkeley Hills Realty, Joan Brunswick 524-1700 X 12

6909 HARBOR DR., Idyllic Setting. New Listing. Piedmont side - Montclair. \$625,000
Attractive, all level 3/3 w/fam rm. Remodeled kitchen, work shop. 2-car garage. Very private. Coldwell Banker Adriana Giacomelli 339-1174

1650 MOUNTAIN, Montclair 3++/2+ Cape Cod charm, convenient location! Prudential CA 428-0900 The Glass-Sabine Team 644-5412

4246 WILSHIRE BLVD., Lincoln Hts 3/2+ Fab SF & GG wvs, garden wplay \$424,000
fame, fam rm off kit, lrg lot, e-z SF commute. Pacific Union Helen Danhaki 547-5750

37 WINDWARD HILL, Hiller Highlands, 3/2 townhouse w/loft, bay views \$422,000
Country Club membership. The GRUBB Company, Susanne Paul 339-0400

8001 HANSOM, Oakland Hills, 6BR/3BA, Bay view \$399,000
Prudential CA, D.A. Hammond, 339-9290

6828 AMY DR., Rockridge. 3/2 New Listing! Level-in with spacious rose garden. Montclair Better Homes RE, 339-4000

8051 PHAETON, Oakland Hills 4BR/2.5BA Pano view. All level \$357,000
Prudential CA, 339-9290

321 SOMERSET RD., Montclair. Piedmont side. Contemp faces hills. 3/2.5 \$335,000
LR w/frp/c, tall windows, beam ceilings. Coldwell Banker, Ellen Lancaster 339-1174

321 SOMERSET RD., Montclair. Piedmont side. Contemporary faces hills. 3/2.5, LR w/frp/c, tall windows, beamed ceilings, storage. First time open. Coldwell Banker, #13n Lancaster, 339-1174

4121 ST. ANDRES RD., Sequoyah Hills 4/3 Charm. remdl in country setting. \$319,000
Wdrflr ext spaces, dk, nu kit & bths, 2 mstr stes. Pacific Union Dick Cohen 339-6460

4384 REDWOOD RD., Oakland Hills view home. 4++/2. Klt/fam rm and decks. The GRUBB Co, Angela Wei Grubb 339-0400

6281 VALLEY VIEW RD., Montclair. Enjoy ultimate privacy in Contemp. \$305,000
3/2. Au-pair w/sep entrance. The GRUBB Company, Mavis Delacroix 339-0400

6070 THORNHILL CT., Montclair 2+2 New listing! Move-in cond. Quiet cul-de-sac, close to schools & trans. Hw flrs, frp/c, FDR. Pacific Union Carolyn Jones 339-6460

5242 DESMOND, New List! Lovely 3/2 home. Lrg living/dining combo. Sunny, private yard. Workshop! Red Oak RE Schuyler 527-3387 X175 SUNDAY 2-4

3451 GUIDO ST., Redwood Hts, 3bd, cul-de-sac, lg yd, walk to park Spanish charmer. Wells & Bennett, 531-7000, Katie Meadow X 288

675 JEAN ST., New List! 42.5 sunny home in Great loc. nr rose garden Safe, convenient. neighborhd. Red Oak RE, Fred, 520-3387 X 292 SUNDAY 2-4

8975 GOLF LINKS, 2+2, Updated, creekside, 3/4 ac, private. Prudential CA, Gene Boomer, 339-9290

25 RAMONA, Near Piedmont Border. 2/1 Charming bungalow with great garden. Templeton Company, 652-2133, Leslie Avant X127

4085 KUHNLE, Oakland Hills, 3/2, Bright contemporary. Prudential CA, 339-9290

4021 BARNER AVE., Lincoln Hts. 2/1.5. Ca. bungalow, charm, hwdws, off, yd & FDR. LaSalle Properties, Mel Copland 339-8900

4530 ST. ANDREWS RD., Picture window on the Bay! 2/1.5. Hwdw flrs beamed ois, wooded. 3 ac. Prudential CA 845-0200 Arlene Baxter 433-9816

4635 FAIR AVE., Oakland Hills, 3++/2, Grl val for superb hse w/vw of Bay Lg dk w/lg bk yd. Prudential CA 834-2010 Nader Davani 433-7354 2-5

5168 SHAFTER, Rockridge Victorian. Charm. 2/1 w/lrg detail. Lrg lot. Ready to restore! Much potential. Prudential CA Steve Collins 4640-4427, 849-3711

3507 MIDVALE, Laurel Spacious, private 4BR A-1! Prudential CA, 339-9290

536-59TH ST., NO. OAKLAND, 2/1, PRICE REDUCED. Starter home w/att nonconforming studio. Prudential CA 834-2010 Henriette Green 845-2021

1093 - 66TH ST., North Oakland, 3++/2, A great family home - priced right and it has all you need plus more! Montclair Better Homes RE 339-4000

525 MANDANA BL #204, Spacious 2/2 condo w/ master bed & bath, fireplace, light & airy. Prudential CA, 834-2010 Jacalyn Evone 273-9876

7433 DEERWOOD AVE., 2/1.5 Probate sale. Must see! Montclair Better Homes RE, 339-4000

3822-39TH AVE., Laurel, 2/2.5 Extra nice townhouse with private garden. Montclair Better Homes RE 339-4000

ALBANY *OPEN SUNDAY*****
520 TALBOT, Almost new 3/2 w/ family rm. Well kept. 1829 sf 2-car garage. 799-8446 SUNDAY 12-5

913 POLK, 2/1 Adorable starter w/ art deco kit, frp/c in LR, hwdw flrs, deck & more! Red Oak RE, Sara, 527-3387 X105 SUNDAY 2-4

525 "B" JACKSON, New Listing! 2/2 condo w/ view of hills! Fireplace. Move-in condition! Red Oak RE, Edna 527-3387 X112 SUN 2-4

BERKELEY ***OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30***

335 GRAVATT, Claremont. New Listing! 3/3 office, studio, T.v. rm & in-law apt. Views! Templeton Company, Marlene Leverette 652-2133 X121

1651 TYLER, New Listing! Lovely 2/1 Craftsman w/box beams, blt-ins hw flrs, wainscoting & more. Studio w/bath in secret hidden bldg. Red Oak RE Sara 527-3387 X105 SUNDAY 2-4

2411 OREGON, Charm. Victorian Gem! LT & airy 2/1. Frnch drs to priv dk. Cts to Elmwood dist. Marvin Gardens 527-2700 Terry Pedersen 287-8780 SUN 2-4

4530 ST. ANDREWS RD., Sequoyah Hills 2/1 + Priv + vws! Frp/c, hwdw flrs. Prudential CA Arlene Baxter 433-9816 1st open 2-5

2810 SACRAMENTO, 3/1 Sweet starter. Hwdw flrs, lots of closets spec. yd w/fruit trees & roses. Prudential CA 945-0200 Greg 869-4774 SUN 2-4

CASTRO VALLEY *OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30*****
22658 CANYON TERRACE, 32.5 New, beautiful Five Canyons end unit. Prudential CA, Bob Randall, 339-9290

EL CERRITO *OPEN SUNDAY*****
1508 DOUGLAS, Just listed! VIEWS! Fab 3/2 in sp. EC ngrbrhd. Nice landscaped yd front & back. MUST SEE! Marvin Gardens 527-9111, Merilyn Rhodes 466-5028 SUNDAY 2-4

2810 EDWARDS, EC Hills 5/2 w/Pano views thru fir to ceiling windows! Quiet, fam rm, frp/c, potential in-law. Red Oak RE 527-3387 X124 SUNDAY 2-4

509 EVERETT ST, 3/2 Good condition, convenient location, remodeled kitchen & baths. McSweeney Realty, Maple McSweeney 235-8889 2-4:30

KENSINGTON *OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30*****
482-84 BELOIT, 3 lots, 2 homes, 1 price!!! 4+4 house & 1/1 apt over garage. Serene. Level yard. Prudential CA 845-0211 Julie Nachtwey 845-5333 Internet address: www.apm.com/482beloit

LAFAYETTE *OPEN SUNDAY 1-4*****
1946 MARION CT, Entertainers' Delight! 5/4.5 in grt location mag wv, pool, sport ct, exercise rm. 4500 sf. Coldwell Banker, Jerilyn Babington 925-253-4831

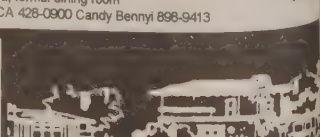
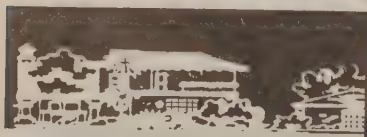
ORINDA *OPEN SUNDAY 1-3:30*****
106 TAPPAN LANE, Huge! Almost 5,000 sf. 4BR, 3 sitting rms, 4 decks, pool, spa, views! 3.95 ac, needs TLC. Better Homes Gail 925-938-9026

PIEDMONT *OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30*****
245 ESTATES DR., Contemporary w/ spectacular Bay views. Move-right into this gorgeous 4 BR home. The GRUBB Company, Anian Tunney 339-0400

124 WALDO AVE., Elegantly set off at w/gated entry. Style & comfort of Med. villa. Frml liv & din. The GRUBB Co. Don Grubb Jr. 339-0400

SAN LEANDRO *OPEN SUNDAY*****
639 JOAQUIN, 3br/2ba, formal dining room Nice yard. Prudential CA 428-0900 Candy Benny 898-9413

The Open Home Guide is published every Thursday in the Berkeley Voice and The Journal, and every Friday in the Montclairion and the Piedmonter. A 2-line ad is \$23.00 and will appear in all four newspapers. Deadline is 11:00 a.m. Wednesday. Call 339-4046 to place your listing!



Arts & Letters

East Bay Events



Seeking South Berkeley photos

Shades of South Berkeley is a historical project whose goal is to collect photographs from South Berkeley residents. The process of interviewing families and individuals who have access to these photos is now underway. As we approach the year 2000 the State of California Library is creating a permanent archive of California history derived from photos selected from residents all over the state. South Berkeley received such a grant from the State Library to locate photos from South Berkeley. Professional photographers will copy selected photos from July 12, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the South Branch Library, 1901 Russell. It is important that residents or previous residents come forth with photos now so that selections can be made before July 12. Call 848-7986 or 649-0494 now for an appointment to review your photos. Shades of South Berkeley is also in need of interested volunteers to assist with interviewing and pre-selecting photos as well as with copying and directing families with photos on the photo day, July 12. All volunteers will attend a training session on July 11 at the South Branch Library at which members of the L.A. project team will give guidelines for accessioning photos and information about previous Shades projects.

Future of Not Sleeping Trio

Pianist Mark Little performs with his trio at The Jazzschool, 2375 Shattuck Avenue in Berkeley, on Sunday, July 5, from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Seating is limited and advance reservations are suggested: (510) 845-7373.

The pianist/leader has put together a new band for this appearance—"The Future of Not Sleeping Trio"—with Little on piano, Jeff Patton on B3 organ and electric piano, and Wally Schanalle on drums and percussion. They will perform a program of original music composed by Little, who studied with the late, great Bill Evans and has worked with Cleo Laine and John Dankworth, Joe Henderson, Bobby Hutcherson and Pharoah Sanders, among others.

Performing Arts summer classes

Summer classes at the East Bay Center for the Performing Arts in music, dance, theater and film/video for all ages and levels begin July 13 with an eight-week session ending Aug. 29.

The center is adding four new classes to its summer lineup: Classical Lao Dance, Latin Dance (Salsa/Samba), Classical Chamber Music, and Music Exploration workshops for children 3 to 6.

These classes complement current offerings in West African, Mexican and Laotian music and dance, ballet, capoeira, hip-hop dance, steel drums, chorus, music theory, jazz, theater, film/video production and a complete private lesson program. Class fees range from \$35 to \$50 for an eight-week session, with scholarships and discounts on group classes packages available.

The center is at 339 11th St. in downtown Richmond between Nevin and Mac Donalds avenues, three blocks from Richmond BART station. Call 234-5624 to register or receive a class schedule.

American outdoor theaters

"Great Sitographs: A Selection of American Outdoor Theaters," a series of photographs exploring a selection of America's most notable outdoor theaters and their relationship with the landscapes in which they reside is at the UC Berkeley Art Museum July 11 through Oct. 4.

Admission: \$6 general; \$4 seniors and students ages 12 to 18; free for children age 12 and under; free Thursday, 11 a.m. to noon and 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. Hours: Wednesday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday, 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Thursday, 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. 2626 Bancroft Way, Berkeley. Tickets: 642-0808.

Fun at Tilden

Upcoming programs at Tilden Regional Park:

"Fourth of July Open House," July 4, 11 a.m. Come for some old-fashioned holiday fun. There will be games, animals to visit, races to watch and ice cream to churn. Meet at the Environmental Education Center.

"Summer Ponds," July 5, 10 a.m. Take a dipnet and find out what's living in the ponds now. For age 5 and older.

"Butterflies," July 5, 2 p.m. Find out about moths and butterflies and how they're different. For age 5 and older.

"Early A.M. Birdwalk," July 12, 8 a.m. A walk to look for some morning babies. For age 10 and older.

"All Trails, All Day," July 11, 9 a.m. Challenge yourself to hike as many Tilden trails in a day as you can. For age 10 and older.

See EVENTS on page C2

Pyrotechnics whiz settles down with Shakespeare

By Carol Egan

Pop! Bang! Whoosh! Hiss! When the Fourth of July fireworks explode throughout the Bay Area this weekend, Tonya Cruse will not be the guiding force behind them. Instead, she will be making sure that everyone present at the opening performance of the California Shakespeare Festival's "Othello" is safe and comfortable. After 10 years happily engaged as one of the world's leading pyrotechnicians, Cruse has settled down and is content to be working as the facilities manager for the California Shakespeare Festival.

Instead of planning and coordinating the explosions and music that help celebrate our Independence Day, Cruse will be making sure the shuttle bus runs on time, that there are enough blankets for audience members, and that the toilets are well supplied with paper. Though her responsibilities are great, Cruse claims, "I have the best job in this company. I love this place."

The place is, of course, the Bruns Memorial Amphitheater nestled in the rolling hills of Orinda just off Highway 24. Unlike most other company members and staff, Cruse's job requires her presence at the theatre year-round. While the company and other staff members rehearse or perform their functions at the west Berkeley studio and offices, Cruse is in Orinda, attending to the grounds and structures.

When she began her job in March of 1997, Cruse really had no idea what she was getting into. After a decade traveling the world and working in one of the most dangerous professions known, the relative safety and tranquility of her new position was both a relief and somewhat of a shock. But now she admits that staying in one place and commuting to one job location has turned out to be a blessing.

As facilities manager Cruse



After 10 years as a pyrotechnician, including here at the 1993 International Fireworks Competition in Montreal, where she won a silver medal representing China, Tonya Cruse has opted for the comparative tranquility of Orinda, where she is facilities manager for the California Shakespeare Festival.

must see that everything works and contributes to the safety and comfort of the public, staff, and artists. "About my biggest concern, coming from my background, is safety. If I do my job right, then all the people that come here will be happy," she said. To achieve this Cruse has a staff of carpenters, bus drivers and maintenance people who pick up the

house after performances, straighten chairs, shuttle audience members to the parking lots or BART, sweep the stage and auditorium, and generally make the entire grounds and buildings safe, clean, and habitable.

"My main problem until May was the rain," Cruse said. This winter's downpours flooded dressing rooms and the parking lot,

which has just been reopened. Despite the weather, Cruse relishes her work environment, admitting in a slight Southern accent that she's really an outdoors girl at heart. She even claims to have named the local bird population.

Referring to her former career

See CRUSE on page C2

Dark farce comes to Masquers

By Phyllis Lyon

The Masquers usher in the summer of '98 with "The House of Blue Leaves," a manic compound of comedy and tragedy by John Guare. The title leaves are only an illusion of leaves; they are in fact blue birds who fly away leaving the tree branches bare. That's what the black farce, playing in Point Richmond through July 25, is all about.

Directed by Robert Hamm, Masquer actors take their best shot at the surreal tale of the American Dream gone askew with leads George MacRae and Sonya Putnam, in particular, right on target.

With sweaty eagerness, MacRae plays Artie Shaughnessy, an animal keeper at the Central Park Zoo in New York, who aspires to become a big Hollywood songwriter and to bask in the blue spotlight of fame. But his songs, like "Where is the Devil in Evelyn, What's It Doing in Angela's Eyes?" turn out to sound just like "I'm Dreaming of a White Christmas." At his cold apartment in Queens, his home life is a shambles.

On the one hand, there's his downstairs mistress, Bunny Flings, feeding his dreams of glory with flattery and sex, but withholding her talent for creating gourmet food until the honeymoon. Putnam, with a New York whine and a silver wig, is all optimism and perky energy, the aging babydoll who has been there, done that and has a dream of her own.

On the other hand, haunting the apartment is Artie's pathetic wife, Bananas, who cannot go outside because, she says, her finger nails are all different lengths. Carolyn Cox ranges from wispily distracted through dog imitations to raging insanity as the wife who Artie plans, but fails, to commit to

the house of blue leaves or loony bin. Bananas, not coincidentally, comes the closest to having a fix on reality of any of *House's* cast of misbegotten dreamers.

Sneaking around in the dark is Artie's son, Ronnie (Adam Gordon), AWOL from the Army, who dresses up in his old altar boy's costume, builds a bomb and blows up the elevator, taking with it two nuns and a deaf movie star.

Three freezing nuns, who have come to watch the Pope head up a parade on his way to the UN, come through Artie's window to warm up and stay to complain that his beer is not imported and his TV is not in color. Jo Lusk plays the bossy Head Nun, Barbara Flores the Second Nun, and Lauren Badger the Little Nun who survives the blast to don a red dress and gleefully divorce Jesus. Gill Stanfield plays the Man in White who comes to take Bananas away and Aaron Duran the MP who does likewise for Ronnie.

Artie has pinned his hopes for fame on his longtime friend, Billy Einhorn (George Doerr who surely can sob with the best), now a Hollywood director of great renown. When Billy arrives to claim the body of his girlfriend, starlet Corrina Stroller (Maria Grazia Affinito), and stays to whirl Bunny off to Australia, Artie's bubble bursts with awful results.

House was first produced Off Broadway in 1970 and won the New York and Los Angeles Drama Critics Awards. A 1986 Broadway revival won a featured actor Tony award for John Mahoney, currently *Frasier's* TV dad, a featured actress award for Swoosie Kurts and three other Tonies. There is more to it than meets the eye.

See LEAVES on page C2

Film takes critical look at newsrooms

By Christopher Cottrell

Several hundred news enthusiasts crammed into King Middle School in Berkeley last Thursday to watch "Fear and Favor in the Newsroom," a documentary that suggests journalists are often removed from stories that conflict with the economic interests of their employers.

Sponsored in part by KPFA, the event was designed like a post-modern alternative media town hall revival. "There is a wonderful peculiarity of a radio station pushing a documentary," said

Public Events Director Bob Baldock.

Narrated by Studs Terkel, the documentary cites cases where journalists from major papers like the N.Y. Times and large TV networks like Disney's ABC, were taken off stories central to public safety, such as radioactive leaks from nuclear waste dumps.

One case involved journalist Frances Cerra who reported for the N.Y. Times in the 1980s. As a hard-nosed consumer reporter trained at Columbia's School of



Ben Bagdikian

See CRITICAL on page C2

Wind will come sweeping down CCCT stage

EL CERRITO — Contra Costa Civic Theatre continues its tradition of presenting lively summer musical theater with the Rodgers and Hammerstein classic "Oklahoma!" opening Friday, July 10, for a six-weekend run.

Performances are at 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays through Aug. 15, with 2 p.m. Sunday matinees July 19, 26 and Aug. 2 and 9. All shows are at the theater, 951 Pomona Ave. at the corner of Moeser Lane. The opening night performance is followed by a reception with the cast and crew.

Tickets are \$12 general, \$6 for those 18 and under with current I.D. For reservations call 524-9132.

First produced on Broadway in 1943, "Oklahoma!" remains one of the most popular musicals. It marked the first time Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein collaborated on a show and was groundbreaking on a number of fronts. The songs and dances grew out of the story and moved the plot along, and the inclusion of a ballet sequence, in addition to the traditional song-and-dance numbers, was a first for a Broadway show. It also contained a grim undertone in the character, and ultimate death, of ranch hand Jud Fry.

But it is the music that is most responsible for the show's enduring popularity. "Oh, What a Beautiful Morning," "Everything's Up to Date in Kansas City," "People Will Say We're in Love" and "I Can't Say No" are among the show's signature songs.

Jeff Seaberg directs CCCT's production, which

See CCCT on page C2

Cruse

Continued from page C1

as a pyrotechnician, Cruse said she got into it through friends, "being in the right place at the right time and having the right attitude." She fell in love with fireworks, watching the people who delighted in them, and the traveling. Her pyro career took her all over Canada, the U.S., France and Holland. Her creations won numerous Gold and Silver Medals at the International Fireworks Symposium in Montreal, Canada.

In addition to professional shows and celebration displays, Cruse did several NBA tours, as well as a number of Super Bowls and World Series. One thing she

didn't do, she admits with a certain pride, is rock show event touring. "I'm not into that, the whole rock scene and the drugs."

"Doing pyro is the longest thing I've ever done, and I never thought it would last that long. I thought that if I ever stopped doing pyro, I'd be a fire inspector," Cruse said. She is adamant, however, that becoming a firefighter is not an option. "My mother couldn't take it." Meanwhile Tonya Cruse takes pride and satisfaction in her present position completing tasks such as training a new bus driver, getting the banners up in the soggy parking lot, and decorating the trails leading to the theatre. Comparing her current job to her previous pyrotechnic career, Cruse admits, "It's a lot more quiet and a lot more safe."

CCCT

Continued from page C1

features Dan LeGate as Curly, the cowboy who's in love with ranch owner Laurey, played by Rachel Oda. Becca Hogan Ackerman is flighty Ado Annie Carnes, beloved of Will Parker, played by Eric Fosselius. Mary Casavant is Laurey's wise Aunt Eller, Peter Fosselius is Jud Fry and Brian Edwards is the peddler Ali Hakim.

Ensemble members are Angel Almeida, Chris Geritz, Patricia Helbig (Gertie Cummings), Reika Ignatius, Todd Johnson (Andrew Carnes), Daphna Klugman, Dallas McMurray, Leslie McMurray, James Mighetto, Todd S. Miller (Ike Skidmore), Lacey Rac Pawlowicz, Andrew Savine (Dream Curly), Ari Sigal, Sonya Stepanyan, Jennifer Thyken (Dream Laurey), Jamie Vislocky, Paul J. White (Cord Elam) and Tyler Young.

Celeste Lococo is choreographer. John Bennett is music director and will conduct the orchestra, which includes Armando Fox and Steve Gribble (piano), Kim Keeton and Marti Hearst (flute).

Events

Continued from page C1

"World of Plants," July 12, 1 p.m. A hike and a whirlwind look at the many plants of the area. Meet at the Environmental Education Center.

Free. Take Canon Drive off Grizzly Peak Boulevard, Berkeley. Details: 525-2233.

Midsummer Mozart

Midsummer Mozart Festival presents "The Intimate Mozart," George Cleve conducting, July 10, 8 p.m. at First Congregational Church, 2345 Channing Way, Berkeley. Featured artists: pianist Seung-Un Ha and flutist Maria Tamburino. A performance of unusual works by Mozart.

Tickets: \$30. Details: (415) 392-4400 or (415) 954-0850

All aboard

The Golden Gate Live Steamers, small locomotives, meticulously scaled to size, are a great free way to spend a Sunday. The trains run along a half mile of track in Tilden Regional Park. The small trains are owned and maintained by a non-profit group of railroad buffs who offer rides on the engines.

Free. Sunday, noon to 3 p.m., weather permitting, Grizzly Peak Boulevard and Lomas Cantadas Drive at the south end of Tilden Regional Park, Berkeley. Details: (209) 835-0263.

Model railroad museum

The Golden State Model Railroad Museum in Richmond is open through Oct. 25. This museum features extensive displays of operating model railroads constructed by the East Bay Model Engineers Society. Covering some 10,000 square feet, the steam and diesel-powered freight and passenger trains operate in O, HO and N-scales on separate layouts as well as narrow gauge and trolley lines. Included is a scale recreation of the Oakland Mole, built in 1881 and demolished in 1960. The exhibit includes a scale model of the impressive Southern Pacific station in Oakland that was built in 1912 and used continuously until it was damaged by the Loma Prieta Earthquake in 1989. Also on display are the Tehachapi Pass and Loop on the N-scale layout, showing how the multiple engine trains traverse the gorges and tunnels; they pass over themselves to gain altitude, cross Tehachapi Summit just east of Bakersfield, go south to the Los Angeles basin and southeast out of California. The Donner Pass, with its famous snow tunnels, is also shown.

Admission: \$2 general; \$1 seniors and children age 11 and under; \$5 families. Sunday, 1 to 5 p.m. Miller-Knox Regional Shoreline, 900A Dornan Drive, Richmond. Details: 234-4884.

Leaves

Continued from page C1

On its surface *House* appears to have no ground in cogent reality, characters who come off as cartoons and the play two hours of off-the-wall foolishness. That's the point. Artie's worship of celebrity is absurd; his single-minded pursuit of fame foolishness; his chasing after distant rainbows, when he is in fact a good zookeeper, a time-killing fantasy.

Underneath the business and noise, Guare's message in *House* is for people who, like Marlon Brando in *On the Waterfront*, waste their lives regretting that they "could have been a contender." His message is: Get real.

Berkeley Rep board elects two new trustees

The Berkeley Repertory Theatre's Board of Trustees has elected two new trustees, each to a three-year term. They are Deborah Doyle McWhinney, executive vice president of Business Planning & Strategy for Visa International; and Neil R. Barth, owner and president of Worldwide Educational Services of California.

The Board also elected officers for the theater's 1998-99 season: Martin Zankel (President, Bartko, Zankel, Tarrant & Miller) presi-

dent of the Board; Jean Knox (owner, Good Show! London Theatre Service) vice president; Roger Strauch (chairman, The Roda Group) also vice president; Phil Trapp (president, TRW Financial Systems, Inc.) treasurer; Helen Meyer (vice president and co-founder, Meyer Sound, Inc.) secretary, and Linda Harris (managing partner, Creative Media Services) chair of the committee on trustees.

McWhinney is executive vice

president of Business Planning and Strategy for Visa International. Prior to joining Visa she worked for the Bank of America. McWhinney is on the Board of Novadigm Inc., founding investor and Director of First Bank of Idaho, and board chairperson for the Electronic Funds Transfer Association. She earned a degree in communications and business from the University of Montana, where she serves on the Founda-

tion's Board of Trustees. Neil R. Barth is president of Worldwide Educational Services of California, an educational consulting firm located in

A stroke can be a major blowing the

Richmond exhibit explores Japanese Americans in American popular music

Sunday, July 19, a new exhibit, "Reminiscing in Swingtime: Japanese Americans in American Popular Music," will open in the Seaver Gallery at the Richmond Museum of History. Produced by the National Japanese American Historical Society, the exhibit is based on a book of the same name by musician, writer, and teacher George Yoshida of El Cerrito. The free exhibit highlights the experiences of Japanese American

musicians and entertainers who contributed to the American popular music scene between 1925 and 1960, including the "big bands behind barbed wire" that sprang up in WWII internment camps. The exhibit will run through October 10th. An opening reception will be held July 19 from 1 to 4 p.m. featuring a 2 p.m. performance of swing music by George Yoshida and his quartet "Sentimental Journey."

Permanent exhibits at the Museum highlight Richmond's agricultural beginnings, industrial achievement, and cultural legacy. The Museum, in the 1910 Carnegie Library building in the Old Downtown area at the corner of 4th and Nevin, and open Wednesday through Sunday from 1 - 4 p.m. Details: 235-7387

Critical

Continued from page C1

Journalism, Cerra was out to mine the truth. After publishing stories highly critical of New York businesses, Cerra was put out to pasture in Long Island. The biggest story on Long Island was a nuclear power plant deal between the state of New York and a company called Lilco. Cerra began to dig up dirt on Lilco, too much for editors to publish, she claims in the film. Unfortunately, by digging up dirt on powerful people with strings connected to the newsroom, Cerra symbolically dug her own grave. She was told by her editor that

she was too biased and not to report on Long Island anymore. "Cerra waited an entire year for another assignment. It never came," narrator Terkel said. Cerra resigned after a year without assignments.

Of course this was no ordinary night out at the movies. Filmmakers Beth Sanders and Rick Baker, dean emeritus of UC Berkeley's Graduate School of Journalism Ben Bagdikian (who was interviewed in the film), KPFA Flashpoints' producer Dennis Bernstein, and Media Alliance President Van Jones assembled on stage in a semicircle to discuss the film and answer the audience's queries.

Questioners lined up to pitch ideas about the film, the role mass media plays in society, and how people can get involved in the media. One young man asked Bagdikian how to become an investigative reporter. "You learn by doing. Get involved with a local paper. You don't have to go to journalism school, and you don't have to go. A lot of great journalists never went. You need to write and write over and over again," Bagdikian replied. Filmmaker Rick Baker expressed his joy to be in Berkeley and his hopes that the film will create an environment where the media reflects a diversity of stories and opinions. "I'm proud to be here in Berkeley, and I hope this film contributes to an understanding and need for democratizing the media," Baker said.

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CITY OF BERKELEY Environmental Impact Report (EIR) Scoping Session

Related to Alta Bates Medical Center Application for a Development Agreement

EIR SCOPING SESSION: THURSDAY, JULY 9, 1998, 7-9pm

The City of Berkeley is conducting a scoping session to review the potential environmental implications of the proposed Alta Bates Development Agreement

- The scoping session will include:
- Description of the Development Agreement Application (The Project)
 - How the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) relates to the Development Agreement process
 - Environmental Mitigations currently in place at Alta Bates
 - Potential Environmental Impacts associated with the Project
 - Community Input: Environmental issues that should be addressed in the EIR

LOCATION: Alta Bates Medical Center Auditorium, main entrance on Colby Street at Webster. Parking in Alta Bates Garage on Colby will be validated at the Scoping Session. Parking is limited, carpools are encouraged.

For more information contact: Karen Hancy-Owens, Advance Planning Manager, 705-8137 or Steve Solomon, Senior Planner, 705-8116

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Can Albany's kids win TOC championships?

Stipovich
Albany
Juniors' Mr.
Everything

By Jelani Harper
Last Monday, Cole Stipovich did about everything you can possibly imagine on a baseball field to help the Albany Bears win their first-round Junior League Little League District 4 Tournament of Champions game against the Martinez Marlins.
The 13-year-old went 4-for-5, including two doubles and two triples, drove in three runs, scored four times, and was the winning pitcher in the Bears' 11-8 victory.
What more could you ask from a ball-star, except maybe an encore performance in the championship game which was scheduled for Wednesday?
"Cole and the rest of the guys on the team really want to win the championship, and they're feeling pretty confident about it," said Jim Stipovich, the Bear's head coach and Cole's father. "He's (Cole) been competing at this level for three years now, since he was 10."
In Wednesday's final the Bear's were scheduled to take on Pinole's James David Betty, a team against which they've split games this year. The Bears blew a 5-2 lead in the bottom of the seventh to lose their first encounter, but won a 5-1 decision later on in the season at home.
Against Martinez, the Bears broke the game open in the bottom of the second inning when they scored seven times to take a commanding, 8-3 lead. They went into the seventh trailing 3-1, but got things rolling when leadoff batter and center fielder Ian Stewart singled in a run.
After that Stipovich singled in two more runs, opening the gates for the rest of the Bears' runs.
The Marlins' pitcher got real tired that inning, and nobody took him out," explained Stipovich about



Albany Senior all-star Bryan Gross gets his team pumped up for TOC final Thursday.

Jeff Lindquist

Pads after TOC title, no losses for season

By Jelani Harper

Behind the success of the Albany Padres' year lies a very simple principle — an undefeated season, Albany Senior League Little League Championship, and flawless District 4 Tournament of Champions record — upon which everything hangs.

No, it's not their solid defense (they've only given up three runs in their last two playoff games) or their prolific offense (they've scored 16 runs in those games), but rather plain old-fashioned enthusiasm.

"My key to success is getting the players to jell," explained Padres coach Dale Moore. "It's so important just to get them to work together and always be positive. I've got a couple of key kids that can pump the team up. When they get excited about playing and work hard, it's just amazing what that can do to a team."

After witnessing last Tuesday's 8-1 pummeling over the Concord Continental Cubs in the semifinals of the TOC at Memorial Park behind Albany High, it becomes readily apparent that pitcher Bryan Gross, who batted cleanup and threw four shutout innings in his winning outing, is one such kid that has been affected by Moore's program.

"Bryan gets them so pumped up," remarked Moore. "He's one of those kids that loves baseball and goes all out. Anytime down on the field if there's a place to throw the ball around, he's there. He's just a super kid."

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Tournament of
Champions
Baseball
Championship
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Memorial Park
Albany
Albany Padres
vs.
Pittsburg/
Walnut Creek
winner**

See STIPOVICH, page C4

See PADRES, page C4

EC Diamond Dogs mowin' 'em down

The Diamond Dogs, El Cerrito Pony Baseball's Bronco Division all-stars, won their third straight tournament on Sunday, capturing the Pleasant Hill Invitational by defeating Citrus Heights, 7-1.
EC lost its first game, 8-4, against West Pleasant Hill. However, it then beat Moraga, 7-1, and Pittsburg, 12-2, to secure one of the four slots in the championship round.
EC then soundly defeated West Diablo Valley in its semifinal, 13-0, gaining the right to face undefeated Citrus Heights in the championship.
The game featured outstanding pitching, with EC holding a narrow, 2-0 lead through five innings, before scoring five runs in the sixth. Citrus Heights could manage only two hits against EC's Jack McSweeney and Erik Johnson, and

did not score its single run until the final inning.

McSweeney led another strong performance by the pitching staff, allowing three opponents only two runs over nine innings, while striking out 14. Johnson held four teams to a total of eight runs, striking out eight over his 11 innings.

In the Moraga game, Ryan Elleck, Brian Wagner and Daniel Gruen collaborated to hold EC's competitor to a single run.

Greg Murray headed a potent offense, going 8-for-16, with four home runs, a triple and a double. Also contributing were Ian Gordon (7-for-15 with two home runs and three doubles), Robert Diaz (6-for-20), Steele Nakamoto (4-for-9), Peter Collister (5-for-14 with three doubles), Johnson (5-for-16) and

See DOGS, page C4

El Cerrito's Big Blue Ponies are a juggernaut

The El Cerrito Pony Baseball Pony Division all-stars won their second tournament in a span of eight days. After taking the crown in the Ralph Quesada Invitational in Pittsburg last week, EC Blue then captured the Pleasant Hill Baseball Association Tournament this past weekend.

The 14-year-olds are an offensive juggernaut that has outscored its opposition, 95-13 in eight victories, have a team .451 batting average, and currently hold an 8-1 record with two tournaments to go.

EC Blue began the all-star season in Pittsburg where the format was based on the best overall record. The Big Dogs won three of four to take the crown. They bested Pittsburg Black, 13-3, and Pittsburg Orange, 19-0, to begin the tourney.

On Sunday, EC wrestled a close, 5-3 victory over Black, finishing the tournament with a 10-1 loss to Black on Tuesday.

By winning two-of-three against the Pittsburg A team, the Big Dogs claimed title to the crown.

EC was led by the hitting of Ardy Davaran, who batted .600 for the tourney. Kenny Salyer also chipped in by batting .450 and pitching a complete-game, five strike-out victory over Black.

Ben Enos hit a sizzling .429 the first three games, Simon Knight led the team with eight RBI while hit-

ting a very respectable .364, and Jonathan Alcutt-Gary scored six runs to lead the team in scoring.

On Friday night, Blue opened the Pleasant Hill Invitational with a 11-1 victory over a strong West Diablo Valley Club. Joseph Sorno pitched a complete game, eight-strikeout victory.

The offense was powered by Brandon Liggins, who stroked two triples to drive in three runs.

On Saturday, pitchers Gabe Mello and Enos teamed up to throttle the Pleasant Hill B squad

with an 18-4 defeat. Liggins hit a two-run homer and finished the game with five RBI to lead the offense.

Later that day, EC cruised by Concord with a 10-0 shutout. Salyer pitched three scoreless innings with six K's to start the game, and he also went 3-for-3 with two RBI. Chase Moore led the offense with a homer, single, and two RBI and Gary had a two-RBI single.

EC will finish its season with an entry into a 14-15-year-old tournament at Concord JOBL, and then the Pony-sanctioned tournament in Vacaville starting July 16.

The team is managed by current Contra Costa College baseball player Conor Flannery, and former El Cerrito High catcher Brett Davalos.

The 14-year-olds have outscored the opposition, 95-13, have a .451 batting average, and hold an 8-1 record.

Panther's Mack, Williams fail to qualify in Illinois for Junior National track team

By Jeff Sepulveda

It has been a long time since St. Mary's High track star Jafar Williams failed to qualify for an event final. And it would normally be unthinkable that teammate Jerrod Mack would finish sixth in the triple jump. But last weekend's U.S. Amateur Track Federation's Junior National Championships in Edwardsville, Ill., was no ordinary track meet.

With the elite athletes from the high school ranks nationwide and a select field of collegians 19 and under on hand, Mack and Williams went head-to-head with the best

young talent in the country with Junior National team spots on the line for the top two finishers in each event.

Williams, suffering from a nagging toe injury, ran his slowest 400 meter time of the season, 49.18, in a preliminary heat and failed to qualify for the final.

Mack triple-jumped what for him was a pedestrian 49-2 1/2 and placed sixth in a very strong field.

The Juniors capped a dizzying span of pressure-building events for both Mack and Williams. Both had competed in six meets in the last seven weeks, with stronger

competition and more prestigious championships arriving at each successive meet.

SM coach Jay Lawson thinks that the season dragging on so long was a factor in their sub-optimal performances.

"I think the guys have had a long season," he said. "When you focus your whole season on the state meet like we did this year, it's tough to peak for these meets. Our state championship was two weeks before the Junior Nationals."

"Other state championships were done five or six weeks before. There

See TRACK, page C4



File '98 Photos by Jeff Lindquist
Jerrod Mack, far left, had a bad toe, while Jafar Williams ran his slowest 400 of the season in Edwardsville, Ill., last weekend, as both failed to qualify for the Junior National team.

Cal assistant hoop coach steps down in order to step up

By Jelani Harper

You would be hard-pressed to find a college basketball coach who is willing to trade in the national exposure that comes from being associated with an NCAA Division I program in exchange for the relative obscurity of a NAIA Division II coaching position, but Mills' Carol Alfano is one such coach.

"Of course there's a big difference going from a Division I school to a Division III school," remarked the Cyclones' recently appointed head coach. "When I first heard about this opportunity I had to think about it, but when I talked to the people at Mills and saw how great they were I was excited about taking the position."

Alfano spent the past 20 years coaching Div. I hoops, the first 19 of which were as the head coach at Virginia Tech. However, when her last two seasons ended with more L's than W's, Alfano found herself out of a job.

But not for long. Alfano packed her bags and moved west, and immediately found a job with Cal as the assistant coach Marianne Stanley.

With those credentials Alfano couldn't stay an assistant for long. "There is a lot of enthusiasm at Mills and I really like the people," Alfano said. "I'm looking forward to the challenge of revitalizing the program here."

If ever a basketball program needed revitalizing, Mills' is the one. The Cyclones won just eight games in the last two years, and had to forfeit the last three games of the 1996-'97 seasons because several players quit.

"Part of what I want to do is get the numbers up, we need at least 12 to 15 players working on the team," explained Alfano. "I also want to

see more of the local community involved so that we can get some sort of a fan base going. I'm not so much concerned with wins and losses as I am with having the people at Mills proud of the product."

One thing that will definitely bring more attention to Mills' basketball is the fact that the Cyclones have recently joined the NAIA's Cal-Pac Conference, along with other Oakland schools, Holy Names and Patten.

Previously Mills was an independent. Playing in a conference can't help but bring the Cyclones a little more credibility.

"Joining the Cal-Pac Conference gives us something to shoot for," Alfano said. "We won't start play in it until the '99-2000 season, so we'll have a year to get our ducks in a row before we start."

Another reason Alfano was attracted to the Mills' position is because she's interested in getting into another aspect of sports.

"There's a good opportunity to get into the administrative side of things at Mills. I wouldn't mind being an AD (athletic director) or an assistant AD at some point," she revealed. "I enjoy administration as much as I do coaching, though I would never give up coaching."

At a Division I school you just can't do administration and coach."

In addition, Alfano is planning a couple of basketball camps for children ages 6-12 this summer. The first will take place in the last week of July, and another will be held the first week in August.

"I've gone from recruiting wars to camp wars," laughed Alfano. "My No. 1 priority is to get some good enthusiasm going for the program here at Mills and make it a positive experience for both the coaches and the players."



Cal's Nathan Jackmon moves on in Oakland City Tennis tournament this weekend.

Cal's Jackmon in Oakland City Tennis quarterfinals Friday

Cal tennis player Nathan Jackmon advanced to the main draw of the 72nd Oakland City Tennis Championships with two victories in the qualifying rounds, which were held last weekend at Davie Tennis Stadium in Piedmont.

The six-foot-four Jackmon, who recently graduated from Cal and resides in Emeryville, got a bye in the first round and defeated Vincent Darmohusedo of Auburn, 6-1, 6-0, in the second. Jackmon, who relies on power as his main weapon and who is very quick to the net and possesses a good overhead, defeated Yarsola Vinogradsky of San Francisco, 7-6 (7-5), 6-0, in the third round to qualify for the main draw.

Jackmon will play No. 4 seed Michael Jessup of Saratoga in the quarterfinals on Friday at 10 a.m.

Dogs

Continued from page C3

McSweeney (4-for-8 with two doubles, while drawing four walks).

In summing up the tourney, manager Harry Gordon noted, "What pleased me most was that

we got stronger as the competition went on and that we were equally strong in all aspects of the game. It was especially encouraging that we are starting to do the little things that can make a big difference."



Albany Senior coach Dale Moore, right, congratulates Bryan Moore for putting his team into TOC final.

Padres

Continued from page C3

Thursday the Padres will have plenty to get pumped up about. They play the winner of the Pittsburgh National/Walnut Creek semifinal in the TOC's Senior League championship at 5:30 p.m. at Memorial, where their undefeated season (13-0-1) is at stake.

Gross, who plays shortstop when he's not on the mound, is one of the Padres' two All-star selections along with third baseman Chris Alfert. Alfert went 4-for-4 with a pair of doubles and a couple of singles last Tuesday, and joined David Klein and Andrew Hirano in knocking in RBI to give the Padres a three-run first inning, after which they never looked back.

In fact, the team is beginning to make a habit out of such quick starts. Last Saturday against the Clayton Valley Rockies the Padres railed off a five-run first inning before cruising to a 8-2 victory.

"That was a different game against the Rockies. Against the Cubs we just managed to pick up a run here and a couple of runs there, but against Clayton we came out real strong," recalled Moore. "After those five runs we just coasted

home."

If the Padres can duplicate that kind of effort on Thursday, they'll be sure to bring the pennant home.

"I believe that everybody is going to make a mistake, and my feeling is that you're only as strong as your weakest player," proclaimed Moore. "So what you have to do is build from the bottom up and get everybody playing, not necessarily at the same level but at the same mind set."

If you have an interesting summer sports feature call the Sports Editor at 273-9104.

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Track

Continued from page C4
just wasn't a lot of time off."

Lawson said Williams toe injury had been bothering him for some time but he had curtailed his training for Juniors.

"Jafar has had a bad toe for about two months. He had to miss some workouts because of it, and couldn't practice for about a week before the meet."

"Training-wise, he doesn't have the strength he had earlier in the season. I don't think he's in top shape anymore. It really affected him running the curves."

For Mack, the Juniors offered a taste of upcoming competition next season at Cal. At the meet which was held at the northern campus of Southern Illinois University, the triple jump was won by North Carolina prep star Greg Yeldell, who had jumped over 53 feet to defeat Mack at the Golden West Invitational two weeks previously.

While Mack finished sixth, he finished third among high school competitors, with three of the top five being college freshmen, including Marcus Thomas of LSU, who had placed fifth at last month's

NCAA championships. Before the meet, Mack

'We were coming back on the plane, and Jerriod said, "I'll be back and a lot of these guys won't."'

— JAY LAWSON ST. MARY'S TRACK COACH

They do a lot more training. They have an extra train and get stronger."

An advantage Mack will next year, and a lot of these won't."

Lawson said that while the results were disappointing, the competition was a worthwhile experience.

"We had hoped they would be better," he said. "If Jafar had (seconds), and Jerriod had 50 feet and they still didn't meet, then at least they would have a nice meet. But it was a good experience."

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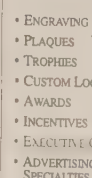
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Plaza

Continued from page A1

different next week. They will actually get it by July's guess.

"I would like a comprehensive price tags," said Councilmember and Redevelopment Agency Chair Mark Friedman. Friedman said the owners have been trying to close the vest, "and he really know what their problem next week will be. But, he need to give us the numbers," Friedman explained that the agency had to be given enough information about the plan and its cost so it's not just a take it or leave it offer."

The earlier plan was touted by architect Bud Johnson as a pedestrian-friendly with "well landscaped and wide" pedestrian walkways. The plan was dominated by a Lucky grocery/Sav-on drug store on the east side of the Plaza and a wide promenade area. It would remove the existing Emporium building. But critics pointed out that there was no department store pad in the plan and some people at the meeting complained that it contained too much "park" and not enough "shopping center."

There have been talks between American Stores, the corporate parent of Lucky and owner of the old Emporium building at the Plaza, and Joe Levy, chairman of Fresno-based Gottschalks Stores. There are community-wide hopes that the two can reach a lease deal allowing Gottschalks to locate at the Plaza. The old Emporium building has been called "functionally obsolete," and in an April letter, Levy said he would like to work with American Stores to develop both a Super Lucky and a new Gottschalks at the Plaza.

In a recent talk to the El Cerrito Democratic Club, Mayor Pro Tem and Redevelopment Agency member Gina Brusatori said the council may consider a binding or advisory measure on the fate of the Plaza.

It is likely that some amount of public funding will be requested by developers and the council would like public consensus on how much, if any, to approve. Brusatori said the public clearly wants a department store and although the owners' planning has far had a lack of vision, it may be reflecting what is economically viable. "I wish I could be more optimistic—but at this point I'm not," she said.

Agency Chair Friedman said that although there hasn't been any planning for a ballot measure, if a department store at the Plaza requires city or Agency subsidy, a public vote might be wise. He said the ballot measure could ask the public: "Do you think this is a worthwhile use of public money?"

At the May meeting, agency member Norman LaForce said it was time for the owners to come up with some numbers and a price tag for their Plaza plans. The Agency would 3-1-1, with LaForce opposed to Brusatori abstaining (because of a possible conflict of interest) to give American Stores and the Plaza Company another 60 days to come up with a revised concept plan. It is this revised effort that will be presented next week.

Sustainable El Cerrito, a

grassroots civic organization, recently sent Bruce Qualls, American Stores Area Real Estate Manager, a plaza site plan developed by the group's design committee. The letter, signed by group Chairperson Lori Dair, points out that the Sustainable El Cerrito plan reserves a site "for a major department store," improves "auto access and circulation," and provides for pedestrian access, security and an actual plaza at the El Cerrito Plaza. The group's letter says many area residents hope for a "friendlier and more accessible 'Main Street' commercial area," and that their plan reflects a "realistic appreciation" of commercial and economic realities. Dair and others have said that an "urban village" plan and a department store at the Plaza are not mutually exclusive. Others, including the board of the El Cerrito Chamber of Commerce and many who spoke at the May Redevelopment Agency meeting, want the retail and shopping center aspect of the plan to be pre-eminent.

El Cerrito resident Kathleen Perka has also put a lot of time and work into Plaza revitalization. Over the past several months Perka gathered more than 9,000 signatures on a petition urging a department store to locate in the Plaza. Earlier this year Perka presented her petition to Levy and two Gottschalks vice presidents when they flew to the Bay Area to meet with her and others interested in Plaza redevelopment. In a recent letter to Mayor Jane Bartke summarizing her efforts, Perka said the community "is now looking to the council" to make a department store at the Plaza a reality (Bartke's response appears on page A2). Perka said she hopes everyone interested in a new department store will attend next week's meeting and added: "It's my feeling that Gottschalks is very interested in being here."

Raj Patel, owner of El Cerrito Plaza Travel, who has been at the Plaza for more than five years, made a comment heard often in an informal survey of Plaza owners and workers. "I just wish they'd do something to get more business here," Patel said, "to get the Plaza back to where it was three or four years ago."

Monday's meeting is at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers in the at the Community Center.

Dinner

Continued from page A1

said emphatically, adding "we expect to keep this up and go to many different restaurants" during the entire construction period on western Solano.

Even Caroline Murphy made the block dinner though she has been ill recently. Mrs. Murphy, as she is known by neighbors, has lived on Evelyn for 34 years. "This is really nice," she smiled as a waitress brought her a steaming platter of Mexican food. Asked what she thought about the Evelyn organization, she replied, "Well, it took me a long time to get to know my neighbors. They are mostly young people now, and things have changed quite a lot over the years. But they are all really nice people."

For those who haven't had the opportunity to visit Montero's Cocina Mexicana, it is located at 1106 Solano Ave. Dining there one experiences the warm ambience of

Budget

Continued from page A1

improvement fund and the balance of the \$605,000 will be placed into the general reserve fund.

After the council voted to implement this new financial strategy, as well as cutting the city council budget by 10 percent (about \$ 8,000), and factoring in the new revenue gains and expenditure savings (about \$208,000 according to the city manager) the budget penciled in with more revenue than expenditure. The exact amount won't be known until the details are approved at the council's July 6 meeting, but the concept of this new strategy was unanimously approved.

After realizing this unexpected money, the council will explore options about which suspended services can be restored. Councilmember Norman LaForce wondered if the systematic tree-trimming program could once again be funded or perhaps some police or fire-fighting programs could be saved. Two police positions and the Hillsdale Natural Area fire hazard abatement program, among others, were previously cut from the budget in an effort to reduce costs.

Police

Continued from page A4

ken into. About 15 minutes prior Albany officers had responded to reports from a neighbor who had seen a black male wearing a black jacket with red writing and a stocking cap in the back yard.

At about 5:30 p.m. on June 24 a caller reported that five minutes prior three male juveniles had stolen her 11-year-old daughter's backpack which was on the lawn. Officers contacted the group and arrested a 14-year-old Albany boy for petty theft. He was released to his parents with a Notice to Appear.

Albany dispatch received sev-

eral calls shortly after midnight on June 26 regarding alarms going off. The cause appeared to be a transformer that had blown out in Berkeley near Fourth and Harrison streets.

On June 26 a resident reported that during the night thieves had stolen her bike while it was parked on the 1300 block of Solano Avenue.

At about 12 14 a.m. on June 27 officers contacted a 49-year-old El Cerrito man and a woman at the Salvation Army parking lot who were taking donated items. The man was found to have an outstanding warrant from Contra Costa County for spousal abuse in the amount of \$25,000.

Blotter

Continued from page A4

interior. Loss: none.

A stolen, forged check was passed at a local business by a woman described as black, wearing a light brown T-shirt and glasses, with her hair pulled back.

A 24-year-old man was arrested for DUI at Kearney and Central.

Unknown suspects pried the door lock of a '91 Honda in the 200 block of Ramona Avenue in early in the morning and took a stereo and CB radio.

Unknown suspects unsuccessfully attempted to take an '87 Chevy Astro van from Liberty and Key during the night.

June 25

A 34-year-old man was arrested for DUI at Blake and Kearney.

Someone broke a window to gain entry to a vehicle from the 2000 block of Junction during the day and removed property.

A 24-year-old man was arrested for DUI at San Pablo and Santa Cruz.

June 26

He was arrested and held for Contra Costa authorities to pick up. The woman was allowed to depart.

At about 1 a.m. on June 27 officers stopped a gold '89 Honda for reckless driving on the 1000 block of San Pablo Avenue. The driver, a 48-year-old Berkeley man was found to be very intoxicated. He was arrested for public intoxication, resisting arrest, assaulting a police officer and for driving with a suspended license. He was cited and released when sober.

On June 27 a resident on the 600 block of Spokane Avenue reported that during the night thieves broke

into her green Volvo station wagon.

During the week of June 21 officers fingerprinted 15 people at their request, towed two cars, responded to nine false alarms, attended to eight lost or deceased animals, assisted 10 people who were locked out of their house or car and responded to six reports of barking dogs. Officers stopped 72 vehicles, issuing 44 warnings and 28 citations. In the domestic arena officers intervened in one domestic dispute, 25 civil disturbances and 102 civil assists. Albany firefighter/paramedics responded to two fire calls and 11 medical emergencies.

in an unsuccessful attempt to gain entry to the a business at 9825 San Pablo.

Someone punched the passenger door lock of a vehicle parked in the 900 block of Everett and took an in-dash stereo and a Walkman.

June 28

Some time between 11 p.m. and 3 a.m. someone punched the passenger door lock a '95 Mitsubishi Eclipse in the 300 block of Carmel and took 35 CDs.

Celebrate

Continued from page A1

food booths, and musical entertainment.

In El Cerrito the local Rotary Club handles the annual July 4 Fair from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Community Center for the seventh year, and this year's celebration promises to be the biggest yet with continuous musical entertainment on

the stage, an array of food and drink, games, community booths, bounce machines and a tea dance.

Over \$27,000 in sponsorships from area businesses fund the staging of the event, the free T-shirts that will be given on a first-come, first-serve basis to celebrants, and this year's designated community improvement project. The beneficiary this year is Cerrito Vista Park,

with El Cerrito Rotary putting up \$12,500 toward installation of modern play equipment on the park's playground. At the fair you can learn about the buy-a-brick campaign to raise the remainder of the needed funds.

The entertainment lineup for the Community Center stage:

Harmonics Steel Band: Steel drum band from Trinidad, St

Lucia and Grenada.

Ridge Runners: Lively group plays bluegrass music with energy and expertise.

Young Musicians Program Jazz Ensemble: Organized under a UC Berkeley program assisting exceptionally gifted low-income musicians 10 to 18 years old.

Desert Heat: Norma Buffon is the leader of this group of belly dancers.

The Back Pages: Led by El Cerrito John Tinloy, this 5-piece band plays '60s rock and roll.

Jimi James: Country-Western vocal and guitar music.

Spirit of '29: A strolling dixieland band led by trumpeter Jim Gammon

Rod Roberts' Dance Combo: This group of four musicians plays for the Tea Dance (1 p.m. to 3:45 p.m.).

Parking

Continued from page A1

along with the city, we need to deal with the issue from a policy perspective."

According to Patton the Planning Commission is developing proposals to submit to the City Council this fall that will recommend changes in existing codes, including the possibility of charging owners who cannot provide off-street parking an "in lieu" fee which will be used to build parking facilities. Mayor Bruce Mast said the city

is considering "giving businesses the option of either providing parking at their business or contributing money to a fund that would go to a more centralized parking facility." He said such a plan would work on San Pablo but that he "wasn't sure" if it would on Solano since there is so little land available there.

The other alternative for Solano, according to Mast, "is to develop more housing on the Avenue," including mixed-use developments—meaning commercial property

downstairs and apartments upstairs.

Ed McManus, a merchant on Solano, said voters had an opportunity to deal with the parking crisis "some years back" when a measure was put on the ballot that would have installed parking meters on Solano and required builders and landlords to pay the city for parking. According to McManus, that income would have been used to alleviate the parking crisis. "However, the voters overwhelmingly rejected it," he said.



Evelyn Avenue neighbors raise their glasses in a toast.

a traditional Mexican home: there are handcrafted wooden cabinets, traditional pottery and beautiful artifacts arranged with elegant simplicity. On the pale yellow wall of the main dining room is a framed self-portrait of Frida Kahlo, the revered Mexican artist whose work is perhaps more popular now than it

was when she died in Coyoacán 44 years ago.

Katz, who enjoyed a platter of fajitas Sunday night said "A lot of people from the block like this restaurant." Having dinner together at such a place "kinda builds community," she added, "and that's good — it's all to Albany's betterment."

council and the public before the study session. Damon made his "new set of cards" comment and noted that there was "quite a bit of information provided for us here tonight that will take some time to digest."

There were also hints of things that will probably be discussed in greater detail at future council meetings. Councilmember Gina Brusatori, who moved to cut the council's budget by 10 percent, said "I'm not interested in spending down our undesignated fund reserve," and requested more facts and figures from Raycraft about other outstanding Redevelopment Agency debt. She wondered about the possible financial benefits from

refinancing other agency bond debt.

Brusatori also suggested the city's employee services manager position could perhaps be filled by a part-time "para-professional" instead of a full-time professional.

Damon asked about possible "hidden subsidies" benefiting the Redevelopment Agency. "I don't know if there is some form of hidden or undetermined method by which the city is subsidizing agency operations," he said suggesting the matter will be revisited in the future.

After reaching consensus on the new budget plan, council members Agency passed a joint resolution approving the fiscal 1998/99 budget, which begins July 1.

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The Name of the Business:
Gospel Gear, 330 West Ruby St., Oakley, CA 94561
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Theodore Paul Bell, 330 West Ruby Street, Oakley, CA 94561
This business is conducted by husband and wife.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on May 29, 1998.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Contra Costa County on May 29, 1998.
The Journal June 25, July 2, 9, 16, 1998

Public Notices

Notice of Trustee's Sale: Trustee Sale Number 29333-F
You are in default under a deed of trust dated 08/09/94. Unless you take action to protect your property, it may be sold at a public sale. If you need an explanation of the nature of the proceedings against you, you should contact a lawyer. On 07/15/98, at 9:45 AM, Attorneys Equity National Corporation (Trustee) 23721 Birch Drive, Lake Forest, CA 92530 (949)707-5640 as the duly appointed Trustee under and pursuant to the Deed of Trust recorded 08/19/94 as Document 34-209200 of Official Records in the Office of the Recorder of Contra Costa County, California. Executed by Yolanda C. Somera, a married woman her sole and separate property and, Violeta Haseman, an unmarried woman, Jose Dela, an unmarried man, will sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash or cashiers check made payable to Attorneys Equity National Corporation. (payable at the time of sale and in accordance with Section 2924(b) of the California Civil Code, and acceptable to the Trustee) at The North Side of the City Hall 1658 North Main Street Walnut Creek, California all right, title and interest conveyed to and now held by it under said Deed of Trust in the property situated in said County, California. The street address or other common designation, if any, of the real property described herein is purported to be: 763 Manor Road, Richmond, Ca 94803, County Assessor's Parcel Number: 426-163-927. The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any inaccuracy of the street address and other common designation, if any, shown herein. Said sale will be made, without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the unpaid balance of the obligation, including interest, advances, and all other charges secured by said property. The total amount of the unpaid balance of the obligation secured by said property and reasonably estimated costs, expenses and advances at the time of the initial publication of this Notice is \$130,465.60 Date 06/21/98 Attorneys Equity National Corporation Kurt Davis Foreclosure Department C271116 6/25, 1/2, 7/9 1998
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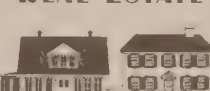
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This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on June 05, 1998
The El Cerrito Journal July 2, 9, 16, 23, 1998

Mazda's MX-5 Miata has come a very long way

Arnold and Marion Wechter

How do you restyle the world's most popular roadster? The answer: gingerly. Mazda's MX-5 Miata has been the top selling roadster in the world since its inception in 1989.

You might remember that the Miata created the same sense of sensation when it debuted as the new Volkswagen Beetle is currently enjoying.

One thing Mazda didn't want to do in restyling the Miata was turn off its large owner base — 450,000 have been sold worldwide. The Miata is particularly strong in the U.S. where the Miata Club of America has a membership of 30,000 strong. Many feared the Miata would lose its character with restyling. Their worries were for naught. The all-new Miata retains the flavor of the original, and yet is more modern and enjoyable inside and out.

The poor man's sports car has been changed, but it is still recognizable as a Miata. It has come a long way from the original model without

forgetting its primary goal — being a car that is fun to drive and, at the same time, one that harks back to the days of the old-time British sports cars, those MGs, Triumphs and Austin-Healeys.

If you are an enthusiast and love to drive, then the Miata will turn you on from the moment you switch on the ignition key. And from the first time you hit one of those lovely, twisty mountain roads you'll be in love with this new Miata.

But Marion, doesn't quite share my enthusiasm. She admits the Miata is a blast to drive, but I can hear the reluctance in her voice. She fears too much agreement with my point of view would find a Miata permanently on our driveway, rather than that big sport-utility vehicle that she has been pushing for the past few months.

The appearance of the new model is more macho and aggressive. The new design was done by teams in both its native Japan and at Mazda's design studio in Irvine. While the general



The all-new Mazda MX-5 Miata retains the flavor of the original and yet is more modern and enjoyable both inside and out.

shape quickly reminds one of the original model, the front end has been completely changed. Gone are the pop-up headlights being replaced by more modern oblong beams.

The stern is remarkably like its predecessor but with a freshened appearance of the taillights. The trunk lid also has a sportier look.

The changes have brought

about some growth. The new Mazda has increased its curb weight 140 lbs. to 2,470 lbs., while the wheelbase remains unchanged at 89.2 inches.

The sports car's overall length, width and height are 155.3, 66 and 48.3 inches, respectively.

These changes do provide a small amount of additional space for occupants and storage room in the trunk.

Miata still sports a 1.4-liter inline four-cylinder engine, but the engineers have worked some magic and it now has an additional seven horses for a total of 140 and the torque is up five additional ft./lbs. bringing it to 119. And it does make a difference.

Lack of power was one of the main complaints of the old model, but the new ver-

sion is reportedly one second faster — going from zero to 60 mph in eight seconds. It is not only quicker but the engine sounds better with the exhaust's sound adding to the driving pleasure.

The Miata's economy is excellent with the EPA claiming 25 mpg on city roads and 29 mpg on the highway.

See MIATA on page 2

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Miata

Continued from page one

Our driving on both city streets and the twisty roads in Santa Cruz County was only 23.5 mpg — but we were driving hard and enjoying every moment.

Shifting was great in the earlier version, but an improved linkage and shorter throws make each shift a joy.

There is an optional automatic transmission, but unless you must do most of your driving on crowded city streets and freeways, we would recommend strongly against it.

An automatic would remove much of the charm of driving this small ragtop. One important change is that

the body is stiffer and much tighter. Torsion and bending rigidity have been increased 7 and 1 percent, respectively.

It pays off on those twisty roads. We put the Miata through our 47-mile trip on some back roads and the car proved itself a winner. We rarely had to brake on the tight curves and even Marion's Macy's bill, which awaited our return, failed to remove the smiles from our faces.

Disc brakes at all four corners along with an anti-lock braking system (ABS) brings the car to a quick halt. The interior has been completely redone with a new instrument panel with all the necessary gauges. The controls are within easy reach.

Two stalks off the steering

column control all major uses. The left stalk operates the headlights, high beams and turning signals. The right controls the windshield wiper and cruise control.

Both the sound system and optional air conditioner, heater are well-placed for easy operation by the driver. Mazda wisely has incorporated a new glass window into the car's manually operated soft top. This does away with the necessity of zipping and unzipping the rear window every time the top is lowered or raised.

The manual top is simple to use and can be easily operated by one person. We both found the bucket seats both supportive and comfortable. While the trunk space has been slightly increased don't plan on trying to fit a

steamer trunk into it. The base Miata costs \$19,770, one of the least expensive sports cars on the market.

Buyers can choose from five option packages:

- the **Power Steering Package** adds engine-speed sensitive power steering and wheel trim rings.

- the **Touring Package** includes power steering, 14-inch alloy wheels, a three-spoke NARDI leather-wrapped steering wheel and power windows and mirrors.

- the **Popular Equipment Package** includes the above, plus Torsen limited-slip differential (five-speed only), cruise control, power antenna, wide-range speakers in the upper door panel, power door locks and a wind blocker behind the seats.

- the **Leather Package** includes all of the above and adds 15-inch alloy wheels, tan leather seats and a Bose audio system.

- the **Sport Package** is available for would-be competitors; Miata has a long, successful history in SCCA competition.

Our hats are off to Mazda's designers and engineers. They did an excellent job improving the Miata without taking away its essence as a fun-to-drive car.

Specifications:

Type: two-door roadster

Base price: \$19,970

As tested: \$25,325

Engine: cast-iron block, alloy head inline four-cylinder, front engine, rear drive

Displacement: 112 cu in.

Horsepower: 140 bhp @ 5800 rpm

Torque: 119 ft./lbs. @ 3800 rpm

Transmission: five-speed manual, optional four-speed automatic

Steering: rack-and-pinion power assist

Brakes: vented 10-in. discs, solid 9.9-in. rear discs, ABS

Wheelbase: 89.2 in.

Overall length: 155.3 in.

Width: 66.0 in.

Height: 48.3 in.

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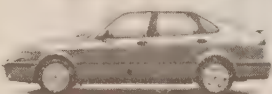
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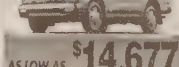
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Automatic, All Power, Air Conditioning & More!

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Cap price: \$11,999 after rebate. Total pmts: \$19,603.13. 36 mo. closed end lease, 15¢/mi. 15¢/mi. penalty if over. Bank fee: \$550. Drive off: \$1723.03 + \$1500 factory rebate. Residual: \$6558.75. \$250 Term fee, need 700 score. #655875

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\$249 **\$999**
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- High Back Buckets
- Alloy Wheels

Cap price: \$19,102.03 after rebate. Total payments: \$15,596.50. 48 month closed end lease, 12¢/mi. 15¢/mi. penalty if over. Bank fee: \$450. Drive off: \$1873.42 + \$1000 factory rebate. Residual: \$11031.80. \$250 Term fee, need 700 score.

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\$299 **\$999**
41 mos. DOWN
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2 to choose from.

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- Alloy Wheels

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\$397 PER MO. + TAX
35 MONTHS



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\$14,995
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\$399/mo. + tax
35 months
19¢/mi. price




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- Traction Lok

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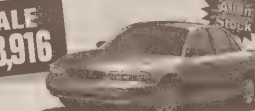


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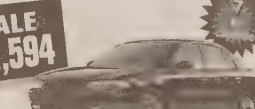
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Bringing a '49er out of the garage and onto the ro



Originally purchased for \$2,618, the handsome 4,115-pound Buick — with the first redesigned body since 1942 — stretches 17 feet 10 inches bumper to bumper.

CLASSIC CLASSICS

By Vern Parker

With absolutely no intention of buying a car, Randy Denchfield went to see a 1949 Buick Roadmaster Sedanet last summer simply because he had never seen one in person. "I looked and got hooked," the roofing contractor and now owner of a 1949 Buick Roadmaster Sedanet concedes.

Buick only built 18,537 such models in 1949. The handsome 4,115-pound Buick — with the first redesigned body since 1942 — stretches 17 feet 10 inches bumper to bumper and rides an equally lengthy 126-inch wheelbase supported by 8.20 x 15-inch white sidewall tires.

Denchfield learned that this particular Buick was originally purchased for a base price of \$2,618 in Los Angeles. The latest owner had bought the Buick after he couldn't locate the car of his dreams. He had some restoration work done in California and brought the car to Virginia with him almost a decade ago when his political job brought him to Washington.

The car has averaged less than 30 miles a year in the last decade, which is why the owner decided to sell the black lacquer-coated Buick with its gray upholstery. That's when Denchfield first saw the car. He was smitten when he noticed the four portholes in each front fender, denoting Roadmaster status. He didn't need another car didn't want another

car, didn't want to pay for another car and had no room for another car. However its fastback styling sure was pretty.

Three months later and after several telephone negotiating sessions with the owner, the Buick belonged to Denchfield. He went to retrieve his prize in October. Then, placing the Dynaflo transmission gear selector in drive, he motored home as the master of the road.

Buick introduced the two-speed Dynaflo transmission in 1948 and was such a success that thereafter most 1949 Buicks were so equipped. Even with a 320-cubic-inch straight-eight-cylinder engine under the hood producing 150 horsepower, the car was slow off the line; slow, maybe, but oh, so smooth all the way to the top speed. The speedometer registered speeds to 110 mph. The new owner reports mileage figures of between 12 and 16 mpg. Buick's Fireball Dynaflo Eight, valve-in-head engine was known for its seamless power.

Inspecting his Buick, Denchfield has discovered holes around the windshield that indicates that an outside sun visor once graced the car. He also learned the spare tire sits on the floor of the trunk taking up most of the space. "There's no room in the trunk, but it looks great," he said.

At the center of the three-spoke steering wheel is the horn button adorned with the statement: Roadmaster Dynaflo. The dashboard is painted in a barely perceptible two-tone gray color scheme that matches the upholstery and headliner.

The antenna is swiveled into position at the top of the windshield. Above the board, above the meter, is the chrome knob that activates the vacuum windshield wiper. The button at the end of the knob operates the wiper.

Unusual for 1949, foot-operated emergency brake. The starter, located on the floor, is activated by stepping on the accelerator. Difficult to use, according to Denchfield, is the arm located on the left of the steering column.

Chrome window trim offer a bit of sparkle to the cabin. The sleek Buick need much in the way of replacement parts, according to Denchfield. He has placed one of the hood cables, generator brushes, and wheel bearings and has rebuilt the throat, downdraft carburetor.

Denchfield is certain 75,393 miles registered on the odometer reflect the mileage because the car resided unused in a garage for 16 years and the numbers on the odometer were faded by the sun.

In the few months Denchfield has owned the car, he has driven it 100 miles from the previous owner had in 10 years. He notes that the more the car is driven, the better it runs.

Consequently, he is reluctant to get behind the wheel and aim the gun-sight hood ornament down the highway. The car is being driven, it's difficult to imagine the tooth grille in a grateful smile.

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Aftermarket brakes squeak, but factory pads don't

ASK THE AUTO DOCTOR

By Junior Damato

Dear Doctor: I recently had the front brake pads replaced on my 1994 Toyota Camry. The shop installed metallic pads and said they would last longer. Now when I step on the brake, there is a terrible groaning noise.

I went back to the shop and asked them to put back my old brakes, but they refused. They said these were the new style pads and that the noise would lessen with mileage. What should I do? Anthony

Dear Anthony: The groaning noise when you apply the brakes is coming from the metallic brake pads. It is true that the metallic pads will last longer than the original, and the noise should lessen with mileage.

The only way to eliminate the groan is replace the pads with factory Toyota pads. The shop should do this at your request. The Toyota Camry pads, however, may cost more than the aftermarket brake pads that were used.

Dear Doctor: I am the original owner of a 1960 Pontiac Catalina that has 170,000 miles. It performs just like the day I purchased it, except for hard starting when the car has sat for several days. I installed a hard-to-find rebuilt carburetor, replaced the fuel line to the gas tank and still have the same problem. Please advise. Archie

Dear Archie: The problem is the gasoline in the float

bowl is leaking through a small crack in the carburetor in the engine. My 1986 Chevrolet has had the same problem for years, along with a lot of boat owners with engines equipped with Rochester carburetors. Your choices are to repair the carburetor, replace it (I recommend a new carburetor from Edelbrock in California), or install an electric fuel pump.

Dear Doctor: I own a 1992 Buick Century with 44,000 miles. Intermittently, the left brake light will not operate unless I move the turn signal lever up and down slightly. I had the car back to the dealer twice and they claim they cannot find the problem. Can you help? Harold

Dear Harold: When you step on the brake pedal, power from the brake light switch travels up the steering column through the directional switch then back down and to the rear tail lights. This is the way it has worked for as far back as I can remember on the majority of vehicles. The problem is a poor connection in the directional switch. This is a safety concern and should be repaired as soon as possible. Any good repair shop that is AAA approved, and has ASE technicians should be able to make the repair.

Dear Doctor: My wife's 1997 Dodge Caravan has developed a strange problem. Sometimes when I start the engine, the wipers will make one cycle, we hear a strange sound like a police radio, and the check engine light comes on. The minivan is still covered under

the three year/36,000 mile warranty, however I wanted your opinion before I go back to the dealer. Vaughn

Dear Vaughn: The technician will need to examine if there is a common ground in the radio and wiper circuit. The check engine light coming on could indicate a separate problem. They will check for trouble codes then proceed to all ground connections. I have seen many poor ground connections cause drive technicians crazy. The dealer also has the option to hook the car on line with the Chrysler technical support center in Detroit.

Dear Doctor: I own a 1980 Toyota Sun Chaser Griffith conversion convertible with 58,000 miles. Mine is number 561 out of 1,000 models built. The condition of the vehicle is fair to poor, otherwise it runs fine. How can I determine the value of this car? Should I restore it and keep it for an investment? William

Dear William: In the 1980s many automakers chopped tops and made convertibles on a variety of makes and models. Unfortunately, there is not a lot of value to this car. If you enjoy the car and the cost of restoration is within reason, you may want to consider restoring it for your own enjoyment. If you decide to try to sell the car, the price will be based on demand. A good starting point would be \$2,500.

Dear Doctor: My 1986 Pontiac Firebird failed to start twice in the past year. I replaced the pick up coil, ECM, and gave it a full tune-up. Recently, when it wouldn't start again, I

replaced the distributor cap and ignition coil. There is also a slight surge while driving along a straight road. What's going on with this car? Paula

Dear Paula: I see these kinds of problems regularly, and they sometimes take time to diagnose where the causes lie. Such diagnostic tests will probably include a scan tool, such as the Mastertech, fuel pressure gauge test, a spark tester to any spark plug, and a test light to a fuel injector. There is no simple solution to this problem unless there is a trouble code in the ECM, or during a wiggle test the engine stalls. Be patient with the shop — this may not be an easy problem to fix.

Dear Doctor: My 1979 Eldorado has only 46,000 miles, and will sometimes not start. If I let it sit for a day, it will start up perfectly. I have been told by a couple of shops that the fuel

injection system on this car is very troublesome. What can I do? Alvin

Dear Alvin: The early EFI system in your 1979 Eldorado is not complex or difficult to troubleshoot. You will have to have the engine checked at the time of the no-start condition to see if you lost fuel pressure or spark. When there is no spark, the problem is usually caused by the distributor. Another source of the problem could be the electric fuel pump.

Dear Doctor: I have two problems with my 1990 BMW 525i. The problem I'm having with the air conditioning is that in the past two years I've had to have it charged twice. Why is that? The other problem is that I had the cylinder head rebuilt by a local shop, and ever since, the idle has been rough. I took it back to the shop, but they said this is normal. What do you think? Norm

Dear Norm: For the air conditioning problem, you will need to have the shop look for any signs of leaks.

If none is found, fluorescent dye will need to be added to the system, along with a couple of pounds of freon and two ounces of freon oil. Then the shop will use a black light to find the source of the leak.

As for the rough idle after the rebuilt cylinder head work, a loose, or missing vacuum line, vacuum leak in the intake gasket, EGR valve problem, or tight valve can be causing the problem. There is always the possibility that there could be a valve-seating problem. A compression test may also be a good idea. Take the car to another shop that is familiar with your 1990 BMW for a second opinion.

Send questions to: Auto Doctor, 3 Court Circle, Lakeville, MA 02347

Multi-purpose infant car seat

AFTERMARKET REVIEWS

By Alex Law

Infant car seat. While inventive seat belt technology for adult passengers seems to be pretty standard, the development of child safety seat technology never seems to stop.

Consider the advent of a new baby-carrying device from Kolcraft Enterprises, Inc., of Chicago, which goes

by the full name of Secura Infant Car Seat and Travel System. This is a serious piece of work, since the company says it is actually four products in one: an infant carrier, a car seat, an infant stroller and a toddler stroller.

The seat even has "All-Terrain-Hugger" wheels that turn it into an "SUS" — a sport utility stroller, a canopy that allows it to function like a convertible top on sunny days, and a full-recline stroller to emulate those first class seats you find on airplanes!

While I make a little light here, the most important thing about the Secura Infant Car Seat is that it was tested by an independent laboratory.

It passed at speeds that were 10 percent higher than the government's safety standards. In other words, withstood crash forces 21 percent above the required level.

The car seat is available on its own or as part of the Travel System through retail outlets nationwide, including Target, K Mart and Toys R Us. Prices range from \$39 to \$59.

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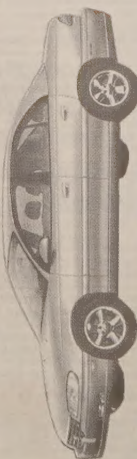
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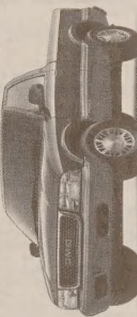
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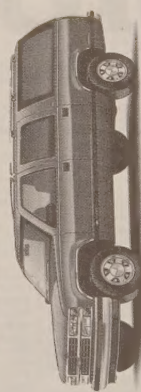


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